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MILITARY GAZETTE

SUCCESSOR TO THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

Vol. XI. No. 8.

MONTREAL AND TORONTO, APRIL 15, 1896.

Subscription \$2.00 yearly.
Single copies 10 cents.

NEWS OF THE SERVICE.

Our readers are respectfully requested to contribute promptly to this department all items of Military News affecting their own corps, districts or friends, coming under their notice. Unless we are assisted in this way we cannot make this department as complete as we would desire. Remember that all the doings of every corps are of general interest throughout the entire militia force. You can mail a large package of manuscript, in an unsealed envelope, for one cent. At any rate, forward copies of your local papers with all references to your corps and your comrades. Address,

EDITOR CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE,
P.O. Box 2179, Montreal, Que.

DOINGS AT HEADQUARTERS.

OTTAWA, April 18.—Major Bliss has been appointed Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, and, in consequence, the command and equipment of the 2nd Field Battery has been handed over to Capt. Eaton.

A large muster of Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Companies of the G.G.F.G. assembled on Tuesday night, the 14th inst., and were put through some hard work. Fifteen recruits joined the regiment.

Referring to the 43rd Regiment, Capt. Hutchison is filling up his new company with members of the Ottawa Athletic Club, and, we believe, has succeeded in recruiting about 25. Lieut. Watters has not been quite so successful, but has a fair complement. Non-commissioned officers have been appointed. Preparations are being made to find room for the two new companies for drill, as at present there is some difficulty about this matter. Capt. Sutherland has succeeded Paymaster Major Parker, and Lieut. Boville has taken command of "A" Company. Col.-Sergt. J. F. Horcum, of "A" Company, has resigned and Sergt. J. F. Garrow, of "A" Company, has been transferred as Col.-Sergt. to Lieut. Watters' Company.

General and Mrs. Gascoigne spent Easter at Niagara and Toronto, getting back to Ottawa on the 11th inst., and on the 16th the General went to Montreal to look into the affairs of the Royal Scots and also to inspect officially the Temporary Military School—the school he was so pleased with when at Montreal last month.

The Council of the Dominion Artillery Association approved the draft put before

them at the meeting on April 1 last, and they have instructed Major Donaldson to arrange and carry out the project of sending Canadian artillerymen to Shoeburyness for the current year, provided the ways and means are found available. It was decided to leave the appointment of the adjutant to the Executive Committee, but a general feeling was evinced that a selection should be made from the Canadian artillery, and not from the permanent corps as heretofore. We think this is a step in the right way, and trust that nothing will hinder the artillery from their English trip.

The Dragoon Guards deserve great credit for their really hard work during the past winter. This is the first winter the regiment have done this. The drills were voluntary and took place every Tuesday, and the average attendance—out of a total complement of 35 men and three officers—was 27. This is an excellent average, and it is pretty clear that Major Gourdeau's regiment intends to be the first cavalry regiment in the Dominion. Tuesday they put in one of the best drills of the season, Major Gourdeau, Lieuts. Scott and Elliot being present, and the men being divided into three squads, were drilled by Sergt. Major Powell, Sergts. Clarke and King.

The Venezuelan affair and President Cleveland's circular have done wonders for the Canadian militia. Canada is about to be armed with the best of rifles. The artillery is to receive a new equipment and the latest field gun, and recently a plan for the mobilization of the forces has been issued by the G.O.C. The Major-General desires that all officers will make themselves thoroughly acquainted with the general principles laid down and carefully consider how the arrangements indicated could, in case of necessity, be carried out in the shortest space of time. These regulations are short but to the point, and when carried out will prove of the greatest use in any sudden emergency.

The G.G.F.G. will visit Perth on the Queen's Birthday. Church parade will be held on the Sunday and the colors will be

trooped on Monday. The 43rd go to Pembroke, but the Dragoon Guards do not intend leaving Ottawa that day.

Joseph Wilson, late of the G.G.F.G., who died in this city on the 3rd inst., was a true example of what a soldier ought to be, and many in the Dominion may take a lesson from his life. He enlisted in the artillery in 1856 and served right through the Indian Mutiny, being wounded three times and fighting in many engagements. He joined the 100th in 1860 and left the Service in 1870. In 1881 he went up the Nile with the Canadian voyageurs, and it was only last year that the English Government granted him a pension, which pension he was not permitted to enjoy for any length of time.

An Act has been introduced in the House of Commons to make further provision respecting grants of land to members of the militia who served in the Northwest campaign of 1885, which in effect extends the time during which those entitled to it may apply for free homesteads or scrip.

The Militia Department is calling for tenders for supplies for the permanent force of necessaries, barrack stores and camp equipment, consisting of boots, socks, under-clothing, shirts, razors, brushes, etc.; rugs, sheets, corn brooms, etc.; blankets, water-proof sheets, marquees, saddlery, numnahs. The contract for boots is for three years from July 1, 1896, and other articles for one year.

YET ANOTHER POLITICAL APPOINTMENT.

QUEBEC, April 13.—The six-inch B. L. gun, which has for some time occupied a position in the drill hall has been removed and shipped to British Columbia for the fortifications. It is hoped the other one will shortly be sent forward in order to provide more room for the infantry. The present condition of the streets rendered the work of removal of the gun to the station a most difficult one and took a large detachment of the Royal Canadian Artillery, under the command of Major R. W. Rutherford.

The R.C.A. Snowshoe Club, which did

such excellent work during the Carnival, have recently had a photograph taken of the club. This organization, which was established during the winter, has proved most creditable in every way.

A fire took place in the Garrison Club during the past week, and was quickly extinguished by the firemen. The damage, which was principally by smoke and water, does not amount to much.

Capt. A. G. G. Wurtele, U.L., of the Royal Military College, has been spending a few days in town.

The pupils of the Boys' High School will devote one half hour a day to the practice of calisthenics, and will be taken in hand for that purpose by Regt. Quarter-Master Sergt. J. Wood, of the R.C.A. The selection is a good one, and the boys will doubtless find their work of much benefit to them.

The funeral of the late Lieut.-Col. Amyot took place on the 1st inst., and was largely attended. The deceased was well-known in this city, and particularly in connection with the 9th Batt. of which he was for several years the commanding officer. He accompanied that corps in that capacity when they went to the Northwest in 1885.

An attempt was made by the R.C.A. to blow up the key of the ice bridge, but did not prove successful. There are no indications of its moving, although the Harbor Commissioners are endeavoring to have a channel cut through part of the same to reach the Louise Basin.

A number of men are attached for a course with the R.C.A., among whom are representatives from the batteries at Cobourg, Yarmouth, St. John's, Halifax, Montreal, Prince Edward Island, Digby, Levis and Quebec.

The 8th and 9th Batts. are well advanced in their training and will ere long be inspected. The Q.O.C. Hussars are also at work. Up to date no church parades have taken place, and on Good Friday the usual march but of the former corps did not take place, although the invariable custom heretofore.

Lieut.-Col. G. D'Orsonnes, R.R. of C.I., has been in the city for a few days in connection with the examination of the officers who have been attending a class during the past three months.

Captain R. E. W. Turner, of the Queen's Own Canadian Hussars, has recently offered his services to Lieut.-Col. Domville, of the 8th Hussars, in connection with raising a troop in this province for service in the Soudan, and to form part of the corps which has been offered to the Imperial authorities. His offer has been accepted by Col. Domville, and in the event of its acceptance by the British Government, it can be readily assumed that a troop would be quickly raised and of the best material. Captain Turner is a young and energetic officer and does

credit to his corps, with whom he is deservedly popular.

Mr. J. J. B. Farley, of the Prince of Wales' Regiment, who was stationed in Cairo, has left for Wady Halfa with his regiment in connection with the Soudan expedition. Mr. Farley is a graduate of the Royal Military College of Canada, and a son of Major A. A. Farley, of the Royal Canadian Artillery. He was very successful in the rifle matches held at Cairo, and won the grand aggregate, and came within one point of winning the championship of Egypt. At the military tournament he won the fencing contest open to all British officers in Egypt.

More care should be bestowed by officers on their dress, and not masquerade in the streets in a semi state of mufti and uniform, as seen during the past week. No less than three were so dressed, with civilian overcoat and hat, the former open and showing tunic, and with regimental trousers. This is more to be wondered at owing to the fact that they formed part of the School of Instruction which has been in session here for three months, and who are now going through their examinations. Commanding officers should visit such exhibitions with severity, not only in the interests of their particular corps but of that of the militia in general. No little discredit is placed upon the force when officers think so little of the Service as to pay no attention to dress.

It is reported that another "Provisional" appointment will be gazetted in the near future in the R. C. A. It would appear as if the Authorities have lost all touch with qualification and merit, and base their appointments and selections on political considerations. Even though excellent material is available, the Government ignore the same and at times even import officers to fill vacancies in the scientific corps, and maintain an institution in this country which they continually refuse to take advantage of. No excuse can be entertained for this injustice to Canada's militia force, and the sooner politics are divorced from the militia the better it will be for all concerned.

PATROL.

ONE GOOD MAN.

HALIFAX, N.S., April 17.—On the 5th inst. the officers of the 66th P.L.F. held their annual dinner at the Halifax hotel. Several officers of the city corps were present. The band of the corps was also present.

Lieut.-Gen. Montgomery-Moore, commanding troops B.N.A., goes to England on leave of absence.

The officers of the Halifax Provisional Battalion C.A. celebrated the eleventh anniversary of their departure for the front on the 11th by dining together at the Halifax hotel. About 22 sat down, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

In your last issue you re-produced an edi-

torial from The Quebec Telegraph, which spoke of the Militia Department at Ottawa as follows: "That Department, from the Minister downwards, is composed of a lot of antiquated old fogies, who may have been good men enough in their day, but who have served their time, and who should be relegated as soon as possible in the public interest to private life," etc. Well, The Telegraph may be nearly correct in this statement, but there is one good soldier there, one who, though a strict disciplinarian, is loved and respected by the Canadian Artillery to a man. The artillery is admittedly the best trained, best organized, and best commanded arm of our Canadian forces, thanks to the abilities, energies and perseverance of that exception at Ottawa. It is needless to say that I refer to the assistant adjutant-general for artillery, Lieut.-Col. Irwin, and had we an officer of his ability, energy and progressiveness in each military district to direct the infantry, as he has directed the advance of the artillery, the infantry would be in better fighting trim than it is to-day. I have had the honor of meeting and serving under (for short periods, of course), almost every officer of the R.C.A., and have found them thoroughly conversant with, and fond of, their profession, and what is more, eager to impart it to us, who are not "Reglars."

It is understood that about 60 eligible male residents of Bedford, a suburban village 9 miles from here, are seeking permission to form a Field Battery there. A petition to that effect has been forwarded to Ottawa. The officers are already selected, and the only things wanting are the Government's sanction, guns, harness, clothing and drill shed accommodation. The first-named can be easily granted, but where are the four others to come from?

In a London journal appears a terrific onslaught upon Gen. Montgomery Moore for his alleged statement in an interview with an Ottawa correspondent to the effect that if Canada chose to throw off her allegiance to Great Britain, not an Englishman would raise a finger to prevent the colony doing so. The paper calls for public censure of the popular and soldierly general, and urges the Salisbury Government to recall him at once. The Britishers evidently don't know the capabilities of the "Ottawa liar."—Evening Mail, Halifax.

GRAVELCRUSHER.

THE QUEEN'S OWN TROUBLE.

TORONTO, April 17.—The Horse Show authorities are in full possession of the Armories, and for the past week little or nothing has been done by any of the city regiments. The granting of the Armories for this purpose at this time has proved a serious inconvenience to the regimental recruit classes, as they will have to break work for about a week, and at the worst possible

time in their course of instruction. It is altogether likely that before long other grievances in connection with the granting and use of the Armories for the Horse Show will be heard.

The item of \$20,000 contained in the supplementary estimates, with which it is proposed to pay for 4 days' drill, not voted last year, was one of the most welcome bits of news that has gladdened the eyes of military men for some time. It is certainly needed and will help considerably to lighten the burden of many a corps. In this particular case the majority of regiments had incurred the expense which this will liquidate, not anticipating any reduction from the ordinary grant.

Lieut. T. Mitchell is by no means sanguine that the Lee-Enfield rifles will be in use in Canada this year. In a letter just received, he is informed that the Enfield people have received an order for 30,000 rifles for Canada, and that these will be commenced at once and completed at the rate of 450 per week. At this rate it is more than probable that the D.R.A. meeting of 1897 will be shot with Martini-Henrys.

A great many people will be surprised to learn that the Enfield barrel of the Lee-Enfield rifle has nothing whatever to do with the old Snider-Enfield. Latest adv ces state that the Enfield people have made a copy of the Mannlicher .256 barrel, after seeing the exceedingly satisfactory work performed by it at Bisley, and have named the result of their work after the Enfield factory.

As a general rule, reporters, unless very young ones, are not easily given to getting stuffed, but the article published in one of Toronto's evening papers and copied in one of Montreal's leading morning papers, proves that there are times when even the most sagacious are, to use the slang term, "jollied." The item I refer to was the story of "F" Co. Q.O.R. proposing to do away with their 24th of May trip and wheel by easy stages to Quebec for the Dominion Day meet. The item goes on to mention about the probable number being 400. As "F" Co. have about the fewest cyclists in the regiment, and as they have no company parade on the 24th of May to forego, to say nothing of the chances being exceedingly slim of any body of cyclists undertaking to wheel to Quebec, it is hard to say just where the ubiquitous scribe obtained his information.

On a par with the above is the publishing in a recent evening paper of a clipping from The Dundas Banner which, so I am informed, explains that Lieut.-Col. Hamilton was retired from the command of the Queen's Own on account of his being a Grit. Such rubbish is very tiresome reading, especially as all military men who are in a position to know or hear anything know exactly how little truth there is in such a statement,

and that quite a few reasons not connected with politics could be given, why in the interests of the regiment the deposition of Lieut.-Col. Hamilton was essential.

The friction between himself and his officers has nothing to do with politics, and the scant, unreasonable and unpardonable treatment meted out to the sergeants of his regiment had nothing to do with politics, yet either one of these matters was of sufficient importance to justify the Militia Department in the step they have taken. It is stated that all the statements which have recently appeared are inspired, and feeble attempts made to mould public opinion in sympathy with the deposed C.O. It could reasonably be stated that politics were brought into the affair, but it can just as reasonably be stated that they were only brought in when Mr. J. D. Edgar, presumably at Lieut.-Col. Hamilton's request, asked certain questions in the House of Commons, and which were so fully answered by Hon. A. R. Dickey as to leave no further enquiry necessary.

The annual entertainment of the Royal Grenadiers, held on the 9th inst., was most successful. The uniqueness of the programme, and the manner in which the affair was conducted, merited all the success the Grens. obtained.

The chief feature of the evening was the musical ride given by some sixteen ladies and gentlemen, mounted on bicycles. They did credit to the instruction received at the hands of Sergt.-Major Dingley, and contributed what all termed the prettiest exhibition of bicycle work even shown in Toronto. The gentlemen were in the Grenadier undress uniform, and the ladies, besides having a broad stripe on each side of skirt, wore the mess jacket and vest, and service forage cap for head dress. They rode better and kept a long way better dressing than their partners.

An exhibition of military cycle drill was given by the cyclist section of the regiment, and although not of the pleasing variety of the musical ride, illustrated the difficult movements applicable to the city streets or country roads. The firing from square, and the blocking of a road and firing volleys from behind the stacked wheels, were the main features of a very interesting drill. Selections by the brass and bugle bands, tent pegging on wheels, and the riding of the unicycle completed the remaining portions of the programme.

With the vast number of wheelmen to draw from, (the available ones are estimated at from 2,000 to 5,000), the discussion as to the advisability of forming cyclist corps or sections is often heard around town.

It is thought that the Grenadiers will form one from the men already trained for their concert, and that the Highlanders will also equip one.

The Queen's Own have, like other things, allowed their attention to lag a little, but in

all probability will have their corps reorganized and rendered efficient before either of the other city corps.

It is rumored that in the event of permission being granted to organize a regiment from the Six Nation Indians, the position of right major will be offered to, and accepted by, one of the senior captains of one of the city corps.

Provided permission be granted, it is stated that Major Macdonald and Staff-Sergt. Harp, of the 48th Highlanders, will very shortly leave for the old country, going in advance of the Bisley team. The example set by Pte. T. Hayhurst, G.M., is evidently not without its effect.

The appointment of Major Bruce to the adjutancy of the Bisley team meets with popular approval in local sporting circles, and all admit that the work performed by Major Bruce in the interest of rifle shooting was deserving of this important and honorable position. For the benefit of the usually well-posted M. E. of The Montreal Gazette, I might say that Major Bruce is of the 10th Royal Grenadiers, and not of the Q.O.R., as stated in The Gazette's military column.

The annual meeting of the Ontario Artillery Association was held at the Military Institute on Monday, the 6th April, Lieut.-Col. King presiding. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Major J. S. Hendrie (Hamilton); vice-presidents, Lieut.-Col. A. H. Macdonald (Guelph), Lieut.-Col. W. Mackenzie (Gananoque), Lieut.-Col. F. King (St. Catharines), Capt. N. F. McNachtan (Cobourg); committee, Lieut.-Col. H. P. VanWagner (Hamilton), Lieut.-Col. W. McLean (Port Hope), Lieut.-Col. W. Nicholl (Guelph), Majors J. H. Mead (Toronto) and J. Davidson (Guelph); treasurer, Capt. R. Myles (Toronto); secretary, Mr. L. H. Irving. It was decided to memorialize the Department in favor of June camps, to ask for restoration of former pay of 10c. per day to gunners and drivers, and also to request that the recommendation of Major-General Herbert re departmental commission be carried out.

The survivors of the Batoche column held a very successful meeting on Saturday evening, 4th April, in St. George's Hall. Close on 100 members of the column were in attendance, and the organization of the Batoche Column Association was successfully accomplished. The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, Major-General Sir Fred. Middleton; vice-presidents, Senator Col. Boulton, Boulton's Scouts; Lieut.-Col. Peters, "A" Battery; Lieut.-Col. Montizambert, staff; Lieut.-Col. Van Straubenzie, staff; Lord Melgund, staff; Major Coulthe, 90th Battalion; Lieut.-Col. Boswell, 90th Battalion; Lieut.-Col. W. R. Smith, Midland Battalion; Capt. J. S. Dennis, Mounted Corps; Lieut.-Col. Smith,

late of "C" School; Capt. Gifford, French's Scouts. Officers: President, Lieut.-Col. Grasett; vice-president, Major Manley; secretary, Surgeon Ryerson; assistant secretary, Captain Curran; treasurer, Lieut. Dr. Scott.

The first fine Sunday afternoon of the season drew immense crowds to witness the church parade of the Grenadiers to St. Luke's Church on Sunday, the 12th inst. The regiment paraded 539 strong and looked exceedingly well. Both bands are in an efficient state and very strong, the present bugle band being a big improvement on that of past years.

There has just been issued the preliminary programme of the military tournament of 1896, which is to take place in the Armories on June 1, 2 and 3, and which will, so far as can be judged at present, surpass in every respect the successful tournament of two years ago. The list of patrons includes Lord Aberdeen, Lieut.-Gov. Kirkpatrick, the Minister of Militia, General Moore, General Gascoigne, Sir C. Z. Gzowski and Mayor Fleming, while the Executive Committee is composed of the principal officers of the garrison, with Major Macdonald as secretary. The competitions will include heads and posts, tent-pegging, sword contests (mounted and on foot), sword vs. lance, lemon cutting, lance (mounted) vs. bayonet, riding and jumping, wrestling on horseback, Victoria crosses, cavalry melee, fencing, bayonet contests, driving and the Gzowski competition, the two latter for artillery. These displays will be seen: March past by the corps of the garrison; trooping the colors, by Royal Grenadiers and 48th Highlanders; musical ride by Royal Canadian Dragoons; lance exercise and maypole by the same corps; sword exercise by G.G.B.G.; physical drill, bayonet exercises, manual and firing exercises by the infantry corps of the garrison.

It is now definitely settled that the 48th Highlanders will spend the 24th of May in Hamilton. They will leave here on Saturday afternoon, May 23rd, and will go into camp at Hamilton until the evening of the 25th. Monday will be a big field day, in which the Dufferin Rifles, 7th Fusiliers, 13th and 48th Highlanders will take part, probably brigaded by Lieut.-Col. Buchan.

That their church parade might not affect the attendance at the Sunday schools, the 48th Highlanders had that function take place Sunday morning, April 19. At 10 the battalion paraded at the Armories, and half an hour later marched to Old St. Andrew's church, Jarvis street, where Rev. Dr. Milligan preached an admirable and appropriate sermon. The regiment was much admired as it marched, 480 strong, with swaying feather bonnets and swinging sporrans, to the music of the pipes and the brass band.

GETTING DOWN TO WORK.

MONTREAL, April 17.—Military work around the Armory is going on apace. Each night of the week sees one or two of the different battalions parading. They also bring with them their admirers, and the galleries every evening present rather a gala appearance. Most of the corps have now settled down to hard work, and the prizes offered in most of the battalions are no doubt the cause of a good deal of the "hustle." Several of the regiments have still their reserves in the way of recruit classes, and good, hard work is being done around the inner circles of the different corps. The Scots have a large class under Major and Adjutant Lydon, who are going in for efficiency certificates. The men in all the other regiments are keeping well up to time also in this respect.

The officers' classes at the drill shed are being well attended, and much good work is being done. Another instructor has been attached—Acting Sergt.-Major Butcher, from No. 2 Company, Toronto. He is also assisted by Sergts. Wilson and Clunie, from St. John's. The class for the non-commissioned officers is not by any means well attended. Previous to the institution of that class many grumblings were heard that the non-coms. did not get a show. Now that they have got the class they will not attend. It should be made compulsory for them to do so. With the drill changing every now again a non-com. soon gets behind in the work, and when he does so it very quickly makes havoc with a section. To have any command at all in the army one cannot be too well up in the work, and, instead of going on the maxim of "sufficient for the day," they should endeavor to take every opportunity to get ahead of their position. By doing this they will find the confidence of the men is secured, and they would be prepared to take command in cases of emergency. The volunteers at home are compelled to attend such classes, and they are reckoned to be the fourth or fifth defence, whereas the force here is the first defence of this country. It is this want of spirit that is the cause of many of the wants of the force not being attended to. Commanding officers should, therefore, see that all the non-coms. who have not the necessary qualifications should attend for their own instruction as well as for the benefit of their regiments.

A send-off was given Major A. Roy, who has been brigade major for the No. 5 Military District since 1892. Major Roy left Montreal Thursday morning on his way to Aldershot, where he is to take a course of instruction. So short was the notice that the only opportunity his military friends in Montreal had of meeting him was by holding a smoking concert. The event came off in the Military Institute on Tuesday night. During the time that Major Roy has

discharged the duty of brigade major he has made many friends in the military circle. A thorough soldier and a strict disciplinarian, but withal kind and genial in his intercourse with the officers of the district. A large number took the opportunity on Tuesday night to wish him success in his work with the Imperial army. Major Labelle, president of the institute, in proposing the toast of their guest, said it gave him great pleasure to say a few words as to the good feeling that existed between Major Roy and the officers in the military district of Montreal. He wished him every success and hoped he would have a pleasant course at Aldershot. Lieut.-Cols. Houghton, D.A.G., Stark, Burland, Capt. Costigan, Field Battery, Lieut. Dixon, 86th, and others also spoke of the good feeling that existed in the district towards Major Roy.

It has been decided by the Dominion Artillery Association to send a team this year to England to compete with the British artillery at Shoeburyness. It will cost about \$3,700 to send the team over, and of that sum the D.A.A. have agreed to contribute \$2,000. Each unit sending a representative will be asked to contribute \$75 towards the general expense. It is proposed that the team should consist of two officers, a commandant and adjutant, one sergt.-major and 25 non-commissioned officers and men. It was decided that the sergt.-major and 3 non-coms. and men should be drawn from the permanent force. The team will do 15 days' training at Quebec, and will leave about the middle of July, as the competition commences at Shoeburyness on the 1st August. As to who will command the team is not yet known, but as it lies with the president of the association, subject to the approval of the Minister of Militia and the general officer commanding, it is to be hoped that the best man will win.

The D.C.R.C. Hussars are making great headway in the way of drill and preparation for the annual inspection. A full muster of the troop invariably is the case on parade nights. Recruiting for this troop has been very successful. They are to have a couple of mounted parades before the inspection, which is expected to come off some time in June. Capt. Whitley is at the Toronto School of Cavalry on a special course.

Trooper J. A. Horstall, a promising young man in the D. C. R. C. H., was buried on Saturday last. Under the command of Sergt.-Major Lilley a detachment of the corps accompanied the cortege to the Mount Royal Cemetery.

The 6th Fusiliers are getting well into shape. They had a splendid parade on Monday night. The various companies appear as if they had settled right down to work. This is accounted in no small measure as to who will capture Col. Burland's cup. There is a healthy rivalry imparted among the men, and when such is the case,

mate s generally are turning pretty smoothly. It looks as if the 6th had put their best foot forward this season. Since drill commenced recruits have been coming in very fast, but last Monday night broke the record. After the parade was over the colonel and adjutant had their hands full. The orderly room smacked more of a scene where a recruiting party had done the tour of the district, and then presented the fruits of their labor to get the finishing touch at the hands of the colonel. Over thirty men were sworn in, and from that alone will be seen that this corps is standing well out to the front. This number alone does not by far make up the number of recruits that have joined during the season. Col. Burland was in command, and, before dismissing the men, said he was highly pleased with their turnout and the smart way they had performed the various movements. Every encouragement is being given to the rifle shots in this corps. All have the same chance of securing a prize. Formerly, whenever any prizes were being shot for they generally fell to one or two of the crack shots. Now the marksmen are to be classed according to their previous records. In all, 25 gold and silver badges will be competed for.

The Rifle Association of the 6th Fusiliers had a meeting on Tuesday, when the treasurer's report was submitted. It was a very satisfactory one, and one which Col. Burland said he was highly pleased with, and that it was the best that had been presented for a considerable time. Lieut.-Col. Burland was appointed president, and Capt. G. J. Henderson was appointed secretary-treasurer. It is expected that the range will be open for practice on Saturday.

The Prince of Wales' had a fairly good turnout on Tuesday night. Col. Butler was in command, and put them through the various battalion movements. A recruit class is about to be formed, and it is expected by the first of May that the regiment will be up to its full strength.

The Garrison Artillery seem to be determined to keep up the reputation which they have secured through hard work. They are again settling down for a tough fight, for they know it will be stiff when it comes to the final. They are about up to strength now, and with the old hands it will go hard with them if they don't make a good showing. They are doing lots of work. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday they have gun drill, and on Friday evenings battalion drill. The attendance is well sustained and very gratifying indeed to the officers. Sergt.-Major Fellows has the corps well in hand, and is sparing no pains in the work of instruction. The Armory sergeant has things bright and shining, and the accoutrements are spick and span, while all over, the place is bright and clean. No. 1 Company were successful in securing the Governor-General's Cup for the most efficient company in the

Dominion, and the Lansdowne Cup and \$40 was won by No. 2 Company of the same corps. The first cup is the property of the winners, but the Lansdowne one is competed for each year. It is the holding of it for another year that is making the corps keep together. No. 3 Company also won a prize of \$15 for manual and firing exercise, while No. 1 Company secured the second prize of \$10 for answers to questions. Gunner W. H. Peard also put on the possible at the big gun shoot at Quebec. The gymnasium corps of the regiment also were successful in securing the militia championship in the tug-of-war competition, and also beat Ecole team, which was supposed to have been the crack team of Montreal. Altogether the Garrison Artillery are in a very strong condition and should give a good account of themselves.

At a meeting of the Rifle Association of the 65th, held the other night, it was decided to affiliate with the D.R.A., P.Q.R.A. and M.A.R. Association. It was also decided to enter three teams for the Martini series in the C.M.R. League. Major Herbert was appointed president; vice-president, Capt. Peltier; secretary, Capt. Thibideau; treasurer, Capt. Mackay. Committee: Major D'Orsennens, Capt. Ostell, Lieut. Tarte, Lieut. St. Louis, Sergt.-Major Peltier, Sergt. Treshler, Corp. Cote and Pte. Boyer.

The Victoria Rifles paraded on Monday for the first time this season, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Starke. They marched from their Armory to the drill shed on Craig street, headed by their brass and bugle bands. It being the first march out of any of the corps, large numbers of sightseers lined the route of march. The Vics. for a first parade made as good a showing as ever they have done. They appear to be settling right down to work. The inspection of sections for the Hamilton Cup will commence on the 5th May. A strong recruit class is also being drilled on Saturday evenings. Dr. Birkett has been appointed surgeon in room of Dr. Lorne Campbell, who has lately gone to Scotland. The rifle ranges open on May 2nd, and the annual target practice will take place at the Cote St. Luc Ranges on Saturday, 9th May.

Just as we are going to press the following additional teams have signified their intention of competing at the C. M. R. League: 77th, Dundas, 4 teams; 20th, Georgetown, 7; 7th, London, 1; 12th, Aurora, 1; 6th Fusiliers, Montreal, 3; King's County R.A., Kentville, N.S., 2. This brings the total to 112, with many yet to hear from.

A deputation from the city corps waited upon the Finance Committee and asked the committee to grant a sum of money towards the expense of entertaining one or more of the outside battalions on Queen's birthday. Although aware the visit of such corps to the city would be the means of helping business, the committee stated that as there were

no funds it would be impossible to grant money for such a purpose.

FORT GEORGE.

AMBITIOUS CITY DISAPPOINTED

HAMILTON, April 17.—The weekly parade of the 13th on Friday evening was well attended, over 300 being present. The Armory being in the hands of the Horse Show people, Lieut.-Col. Moore took the corps for a march out and, headed by the two bands, they marched down Barton street to the toll-gate, and back by Victoria avenue, King and James streets, a distance of over three miles. On Sunday, April 26th, there will be a church parade.

The regiment is to be congratulated upon having once more with it one of the best officers in the Canadian militia, Capt. Percy Domville, who has returned to military life after an absence of several years.

"H" Company, 13th, held its regular quarterly meeting in the Armory after parade Friday night. Several members of the company committees having left the limits, their places on the various committees were filled. The company are in high glee at having secured such an able and enthusiastic commander as Capt. Domville.

The proposal to establish a recreation room in the drill hall has met with unusual approbation on all sides. It has been a long-felt want amongst the men, that of having no large room to gather in for a quiet game of cards, smoke, etc., and it will soon make its good influence felt in the regiment by the number of recruits to the ranks.

Again has Hamilton been overlooked in the selection of an adjutant for the Bisley team, and, as is usually the case, the honor goes to the city least deserving, in view of the fact that it has furnished a number of officers for that position during the past few years. It is felt that Hamilton was justly entitled to the adjutancy. After the brilliant record her rifle shots have made for themselves on Canadian soil and the honor they have won for their country at Bisley, when such men as Major Mason and Capt. Ross are willing to fill the position, the choice should have been between them, especially as the 13th Regiment have four men on the team and require but one more in order to compete for Battalion prizes there.

Lieut.-Col. Moore, Major McLaren and Chaplain Forneret paid a visit to the sergeants' mess on Friday night.

It would not do to let the returns of the Gzowski cup competition out too suddenly, as the effect might be disastrous.

Hamilton is looking forward to a gala day on the 24th and 25th May, when the 7th Fusiliers, London; the 38th Dufferin Rifles, Brantford, and the 48th Highlanders, Toronto, will join the 13th in a grand review and field day at the Jockey Club grounds.

MILITARY ARMS AT THE EXPOSITION.

THE Sportsmen's Exposition of 1896 was a very nice display from the standpoint of a sportsman, but the exhibit of military goods was not so good as last year.

By far the best display was made by the Union Metallic Cartridge Co. The military arms, etc., in this exhibit, which by the way was in charge of that well-known ballistic expert, Wm. M. Thomas, consisted of a sample rifle of each of the following powers: Germany, Austria, Belgium, Spain, Britain, and the United States. This was by far the best collection of modern military rifles that it has ever been the writer's good fortune to examine. These were not copies of the national arm of each country, made by some gunmaker, but the arm itself, made by the governments for issue to their infantry forces. It would have required several weeks time, and the means of making tests, for one to arrive at a correct estimation of the merits of each arm, while the principal features of each arm are probably well known to the readers of THE GAZETTE. The American Krag-Jorgensen, calibre .300, is without doubt the most awkward looking and most inefficient arm of the whole collection. The magazine is a permanent fixture on the gun, it lies horizontally beneath the breech bolt, and access is had thereto by a swinging spring door on the right side of the arm. There seems to be nothing to prevent the cartridges from jamming in the magazine, while if the fired cartridge case is not promptly ejected upon the withdrawal of the bolt, the returning of the bolt to its forward position will jam it and the next cartridge against the chamber and disable the arm for the time being. The writer, while the arm was loaded with blanks, several times disabled it in full view of the attending expert, although he being a patriotic American declared it impossible to do so. The English Lee, while not having anything on the score of beauty to recommend it, works much smoother and effectively than the American arm. The Austrian Mannlicher, with its large ungainly sights, came a good second, if it did not surpass the American arm in ugliness. The German Manser is a neat and symmetrical looking arm, although its permanent magazine is somewhat against it. This arm, in common with the Belgian and Spanish, has the barrel covered by a hollow steel case called a "vacuum jacket"; this increases the weight somewhat and is of doubtful efficiency, besides injuring the appearance of the arm. The Belgian 7.65 mm. is a very neat arm, and is stated to be the most accurate small bore military rifle and cartridge yet produced. Its mechanism resembles both the German and Spanish arms, with perhaps the most similarity to the Spanish. But the arm for excellence of the entire collection was the Spanish Manser, 7 mm. rimless cartridges. It is a light, neat, symmetrical arm,

the mechanism works the smoothest, and with less apparent weakness than any of the arms. Its cartridge is the smallest calibre that has yet proven efficient in actual warfare. The arm is provided with a vacuum jacket of steel and a wooden hand guard on the barrel up to the first band. This guard by the way is also provided on the Krag-Jorgensen. The magazine is loaded from a sheet metal clip which confines only the heads of the cartridges and does not go into the magazine, while the supply in the magazine can be replenished at any time by single cartridges. These essential parts of the magazine system are embodied in the new Lee "Straight Pull" magazine arm recently adopted by the United States Navy Department, and are considered to be the proper foundation upon which to build a magazine system for a military repeater. There were also samples of the cartridges used in each arm, and the clips or detachable magazines used in loading them into the arm. The U. M. C. Co. also had a 3 pdr. Hotchkiss and 1 pdr. Driggs-Schroeder rapid-fire naval guns with cage stands for deck use, but alas, they were mounted in the bronze swivel piece, which contains the trunnion beds, backwards. The writer attempted to explain things, but got laughed at by the "expert" for his trouble. Said "expert" by the way was not a military man.

The Winchester Repeating Arms Co. had on exhibition a 1-pdr. Hotchkiss rapid fire gun, mounted on a deck stand with hydraulic recoil cylinder. This gun, being in charge of a man who has seen actual service in the "late unpleasantness," was mounted in a proper manner. This company also exhibited samples of their solid drawn cases for rapid-fire guns from 1-pdr. up to 6-inch, as adopted by the Navy Department, also a sample 8-inch case, which has been developed by the company, but not adopted by the navy yet, though experimented with. Also loaded rapid-fire ammunition in both common and armor-piercing projectiles, for 1-pdr. short, 1-pdr. long, 2-pdr. 3-pdr., and 6-pdr. The 1, 3, and 6-pdr. cartridges are used in the naval guns, Hotchkiss and Driggs-Schroeder, of those calibres, while the 2-pdr. is used in the Hotchkiss 1.65-inch mountain gun, of the U.S. army. This gun has a horizontal sliding block that has to be retracted by hand when unlocked.

The Colt Fire Arms Co. had on exhibition two of their Browning automatic guns. These guns have been described before: The writer gave some explanation of their principal features in THE GAZETTE last year. One was for the navy .236 calibre cartridge; it was mounted on a cage stand for deck use. The other was for the army .300 calibre cartridge; it was mounted on a light tripod, and made a light and portable gun. The gun itself, without the mount, weighs about 40 pounds, while the tripod would weigh perhaps as much more. One

of the tripod legs is provided with a bicycle seat from which the operator can direct the fire and manipulate the elevating mechanism. This company also exhibited a model of the mechanism of their latest military revolver, which has been adopted by the U.S. army. It is the same as the model adopted by the U.S. navy, only it is provided with a safety that prevents the trigger being pulled until the cylinder is in place and locked. These arms weigh about two pounds.

The Savage Arms Co. had an exhibit of the sporting model of their repeating rifle. The magazine is of the revolving type, and is located underneath the bolt. A military model of this arm was submitted to the Army Ordnance Department at the time of the competitive tests, and one has been submitted to the New York State Board that has the selecting of a magazine rifle for the State militia. The sporting model of the Savage rifle takes a cartridge of .303 calibre, somewhat shorter and lighter than the British Service cartridge, but of the steel jacket type. The West magazine rifle, exhibited by the inventor, was of the tubular magazine type, but the inventor claims it will work with the box magazine, and we believe he has either a model or drawings before the State Board. The rifle is chiefly interesting from the fact that the mechanism is operated by a lever similar to that on the Winchester and other rifles, but it slides on the grip of the stock instead of being a true lever. The Winchester Co. had their model '95 rifle on exhibition; it is a lever arm with a box magazine, using military cartridges for sporting purposes.

About the only thing interesting in powders was the new Du Pont ordnance powder. There were two samples: For 6-inch guns it was hexagonal pieces about $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch in length by $\frac{3}{4}$ inch diameter, pierced longitudinally with seven small holes. That for field guns was similar, but about $\frac{1}{4}$ by $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in size. Heretofore their powder for such use was made in sticks of nearly the length of the chamber of the gun in which it was used.

R. H. BLAIN.

It is officially announced that from April 1 next a photographic section for use on field service is to form part of the Italian army establishment. The section will be furnished by the 3rd Regiment of Engineers.

Col. Swaine, commanding the 11th Hussars, is returning from India by way of the Canadian Pacific route. He is a brother of Col. Swaine, L.V., C.B., C.M.G., who was military attache at Berlin, and who now commands the 2nd infantry brigade at Aldershot, and is a temporary Major-General. Earl Spencer is also on the same steamer.

THE LATE LIEUT.-COL. F. C. DENISON.

BY the death of Lieut.-Col. Frederick Charles Denison, M.P., the Canadian militia loses a distinguished member, and the Crown a loyal and devoted servant. Col. Denison inherited all the military instincts of his family, and his temperament admirably fitted him for the discipline of active service. His connection with military affairs began early in life. When little more than a lad he was attached as lieutenant to the administrative battalion on the Niagara Frontier in 1865, maintained by the Canadian authorities at the close of the American civil war, and designed to prevent any border disturbances similar to the St. Albans Raid. In August of that year he was gazetted cornet in the Governor-General's Body Guard, and served in the Niagara campaign in 1866 during the Fenian Raid. During his service in 1865 one of his comrades in arms was Col. Otter. In 1872 he became captain, four years later major, and in 1884 lieutenant-colonel. When in 1870 Colonel Sir Garnet Wolseley commanded the military expedition to Red River, Lieut. Denison and Capt. Huyshe, of the regular army, were his aides-de-camp, and in Capt. Huyshe's book, "The Narrative of the Red River Expedition," are many references to "D. and I." For his services on this occasion young Denison was mentioned in the despatches, and throughout his whole life a warm friendship existed between him and the present Commander-in-Chief of the army. Later on he entered public life, and devoted a good deal

of his time to municipal affairs. In 1884 he was chairman of the Executive Committee of the Toronto City Council, and was generally regarded as in the direct succession to the mayoralty of the city. In that year the proposition to employ the services of Canadian voyageurs was spoken of, and, immersed in other affairs, Col. Denison at first had no idea that he would be called to the command of the Canadian contingent. When, however, the Imperial authorities resolved to employ a Canadian force, General Wolseley cabled to Canada: "Send a Red River officer, Denison preferred." At once, Col. Denison, on

hearing that his old commanding officer had expressed such a wish, decided to go to Egypt, although as a militia officer he was not called upon to serve outside of Canada. He made personal sacrifices of which the public knew nothing, but let nothing stand in the way of doing his duty. In a short time, therefore, he organized the corps required, and on September 15, 1884, they sailed from Quebec. Under his command the Canadian Voyageurs undertook the conduct of the expedition up the Nile. With General Earle's column he fought at the battle of Kirbegan, and his merit gained a deserved recognition. His gallant conduct won him

turning to Canada was greeted with enthusiastic praise for his soldier-like and creditable conduct throughout. In 1887 he was elected to the House of Commons for West Toronto, and on again standing for the constituency in 1891 was re-elected by an immense majority. In 1894 he commanded the Bisle team from Canada. He wrote the historical record of the Governor-General's Body Guard, and was a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society of England. His death drew forth in the House of Commons warm eulogies from Sir Charles Tupper, Mr. Laurier, and his fellow members from Toronto, who referred specially to the strength

and sincerity of his convictions and the conscientious motives which always guided his conduct.

An illustration of the courageous character and moral fibre of the deceased officer was afforded by his death. For some months he had been afflicted with cancer of the liver, and submitted to a painful operation with composure. When this failed to remedy the disease, and it became known to him that ultimate recovery was impossible, he preferred to face death with the calm unflinching courage of a true soldier. Aware that his death was a matter of a short time, he employed what strength was left to him in arranging his affairs and bearing the pain of disease with a cheerful courage and constant thoughtfulness for others. A day or two before his death he summoned all his flagging energies to get down stairs as usual, and when the end came finally he passed away peacefully and calmly. At his funeral there gathered an immense con-



THE LATE LIEUT.-COL. F. C. DENISON.

course of people to pay a last tribute of respect to a man whose career had been throughout entirely creditable to him as a politician, a citizen, a military man, and a loyal subject of his sovereign. The remains were taken to the old private burial place of the Denisons on the Humber, near Weston, where have been interred during the last hundred years other members of the family, whose zeal and faithfulness in the cause of the British Crown are matters of record. Several old soldiers who had served under him in the Niagara Frontier campaigns, were at the grave.

special mention from Lord Wolseley; his rewards were an Egyptian medal and two clasps for his part at Kirbegan, and the decoration of C.M.G. for his services in the whole campaign. In the House of Commons he was specially referred to by the Marquis of Hartington in a vote of thanks to the British troops. Before leaving Egypt he caught enteric fever, and for a long time lay unconscious in the hospital at Cairo, nearly succumbing to the disease, and receiving many marks of kindness from Lord and Lady Wolseley during his illness. His good constitution pulled him through, and on re-

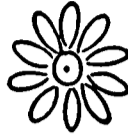
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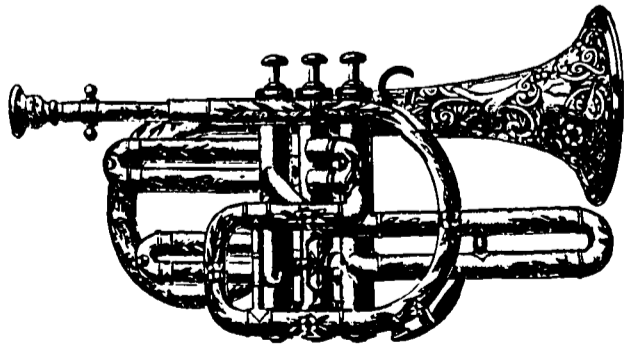
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THE CANADIAN

MILITARY GAZETTE

(Successor to the Canadian Militia Gazette.)

ESTABLISHED 1885.

PUBLISHED AT TORONTO

ON THE

1st and 15th of each Month.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE MILITARY
FORCES OF CANADA.**SUBSCRIPTIONS:**

Canada and the United States, per annum.	\$2.00
Great Britain, Ireland and Postal Union	
Countries.....	10s. 6d. stg.
Single Copies.....	10 cents

Subscriptions are in every instance payable in advance, and the publishers request the favor of prompt remittance.

Remittances should be made by post office order or registered letter.

The date when the subscription expires is on the address label of each paper, the change of which to a subsequent date becomes a receipt for remittance. No other receipt is sent unless requested.

Immediate notice should be given of any delay or failure in the receipt of THE GAZETTE.

All communications and remittances should be addressed to the editor, P. O. Box 2179, Montreal.

MONTREAL-TORONTO, APRIL 15, 1896.

ARE WE READY ?

WITH the corners of the "war cloud" still visible that presented itself to those who follow in the wake of the Jack that has so nobly withstood "the battle and the breeze," it behooves us to remind the Authorities that it may return as suddenly as a midsummer thunderstorm. Should the call "to arms" resound, would it find our force in that perfect condition which would enable it to respond? If the present is only a lull before the storm, is it not an opportune time for the Authorities to see that the force be brought up to that state of efficiency so that it could respond with alacrity?

The militia force of Canada is a voluntary body. As such a great deal of tact is required to keep it together. An unpopular commanding officer will spoil in a season what has taken years of patient and laborious work to accomplish. The same holds with officers commanding companies. Very often it is the case that those whom they would have to lead in war are as well trained in the matter of drill as the commander. Such being the case, the rank and file are apt to criticise and ask the why and wherefore of things. From criticism to dissatisfaction is but a step. To overcome this, and gain the confidence of their men, officers should seek to attain that high knowledge which, when the day of trial came, would give their

men that confidence of good leadership which shines so prominently out in the pages of British history.

The militia force is raised to a great extent by patriotism and love of country. Mutual feelings, good-fellowship and forbearance are essential things to keep them together. Officers, then, should get the confidence of their men. Draw them together; and when he has done so he will find that they can be relied upon. A kindly word at the proper time goes a long way. Let him imbue them with the thought that they belong to the best regiment in the district, and that their company is the best in the regiment. Once such a standard is reached, tact, properly displayed, should do the rest.

The fact of a degenerating corps cannot always be laid at the door of an officer. Commanding officers are given positions that they have not the proficiency nor ability to fill. In a great majority of cases important appointments are filled by those who have a "pull." The result is that many a good officer who has spent years of hard work is passed over. Naturally they feel disheartened, and retire from the Service. Until the Government rectify such a state of affairs and remove the "no goods," Canada's militia force can never gain that thoroughness which is so much required for the defence of a country.

TAKE IT OUT OF THE MINISTER'S HANDS.

A NUMBER of gentlemen, fearing that some wire-pulling politician or his friend might be appointed to the command of the Bisley team, interested themselves on behalf of Lieut.-Col. Starke, of the Victoria Rifles. They spoke to and wrote the Minister of Militia. When the appointment was made he informed those who had advocated Col. Starke's appointment that "I have decided to appoint Col. Starke, etc."

This is a matter to which we drew attention some time ago. The appointment is supposed to be made by the president of the association, the chairman of the council and the chairman of the Executive Committee. These gentlemen in the past have practically allowed the Ministers of Militia to make the appointment, until now they have begun to think it is their right. In the present instance there is an excuse, for Mr. Des-

jardins is a new man. He has appointed the right man, and it is all the more to his credit, for the strongest possible influence was brought to bear to induce him to make a political appointment. Had he done so the Government candidates in Montreal would have found it difficult to explain things to the military vote, thanks to the attention given to the question in the columns of THE MILITARY GAZETTE.

We must insist that the future appointments be made by the sub-committee of the association and not by the Minister. The argument that as the Government gives an annual grant they should have a right to name the commandant is not worth considering. The Government dare not withdraw the grant. There might be some excuse for it if the position required only a figure-head, but it requires an experienced rifleman as well as one who will do Canada honor from a social standpoint. Nearly every figure-head has been a failure.

LOOKING FOR A PULL.

A few days ago several officers, representing two arms of the permanent corps, were discussing with a good deal of anxiety the chances of a change in Government. They felt it might have a material effect on their future. One by one they named Liberal politicians with whom they were intimately or otherwise acquainted, and felt that their promotion was more or less sure according to the "pull" they had with these gentlemen, should that party come into power. No one for a moment suggested that qualifications entered into the question, nor did they even expect promotion by seniority. It was admitted that juniors with the "political pull" were now constantly endeavoring to step over men who were their seniors, and who were better qualified in every way.

These officers, and there are many of them in the permanent corps, often allow the interests of the Service to suffer in their desire to "stand in" with influential politicians. They have even given certificates to officers who only made a pretence of passing the examination.

Yet Sir Mackenzie Bowell assumed a most wronged expression when the Toronto Young Liberals presented a resolution asking him to make military appointments on merit and not on political grounds.

A MILITARY TOURNAMENT.

A PROPOSITION that has been going the rounds of military men is to have competitions between the various regimental districts in the matter of gymnastics. A tournament is shortly to be held in Toronto, at which it is to be hoped that teams from the various districts will be represented. Is it not possible to have a grand military tournament, something after the lines of the military tournament held in London? We have got our "Bisley." Why not then have our military tournament? A few weeks ago one of the leading military papers in the Old Country stated that representatives from the national forces would receive a hearty welcome to the military tournament. A team for this could be just as well picked as the twenty for Bisley are. Let the teams from the various battalions compete in a grand final, and the team winning the primer position be the one sent to represent Canada. If this were taken up it would give an impetus to such work in the force. Each and all would have the same chance, and there is no reason why a blue ribbon should not follow such a team across the "Pond." The material is here and requires only the gathering of it together to do so.

STRENGTH OF THE BRITISH ARMY.

TOMMY ATKINS in the British army is getting his wants well looked after. The old days are passing away; so much so that the veteran is wont to look with no favorable eye on the new state of things, and with his proverbial growl wonders if such a state of things is good for the army. That matters have taken a decided turn for the better is clearly shown in the reports just issued for 1895. The physical development of the recruit is to be still further looked after, according to the new syllabus which has just been approved of. A young man's fitness for the ranks is not to be judged by the number of days' drill he puts in, but must depend upon how he comes out of the examination of a board of officers, who will report whether he is likely to be a fit subject for Her Majesty's army or whether he be discharged as not being likely to become an efficient soldier. While in the depot recruits will have to do twenty hours' work a week, ten of which are to be devoted to gymnastic and physical exercise; of the remaining ten

hours, on his completion of seven weeks' work, he will commence a two hours march per day without valises, to be gradually extended to three or more in full marching order.

During the past year there has been no difficulty in securing recruits to keep up the army to the strength authorized by Parliament. This, too, with a decrease from previous years of the number who enlisted under standard. In the last five years the figures have fallen from 32.9 per cent. in 1891 to 19.9 per cent. in 1895. It is gratifying also to note that of the 1,370 who joined during the first six months of 1895, when re-measured on January 1, 1896, no less than 923 were found to have reached the full standard. The loss from desertion has been much less than in any previous year since the establishment of the short service, although there are 35,000 men more.

To the improvements in messing, and the comfort of the men being better looked after in barracks, are due in a great measure the falling off in misdemeanor.

The militia force also shows up well, notwithstanding the fact that during 1895 there was a decrease in the number enrolled. The number present at the annual training shows a marked improvement, and the number thus available for service is gradually increasing. This is probably due to the fact that payment of the bounty is made until the man actually comes up for his annual training instead of, as formerly, paying it when he re-engaged. The number of desertions from the effective strength has fallen from 12.9 per cent. in 1893 to 7.1 per cent. in 1895.

The Militia Reserve, which is comprised exclusively of enlisted militiamen, is a very popular force. Applications to enlist have not infrequently to be refused, as the establishments in many instances are complete. The reserve militia men receive a bounty of \$5, payable at the termination of each annual training. For this they make a still further engagement, which renders them liable to be called out for permanent military service either at home or abroad in case of "imminent national danger or of great emergency."

With the volunteers matters are very satisfactory. The only difficulty experienced in that force is the present dearth of officers. To meet this an additional sum has been taken out in order to assist officers in providing an outfit. A special sum has also been provided for grants to officers attending schools of instruction.

There were 400 more returned efficient than for the previous year, although there was a slight falling off in the numbers attending inspection, the total for 1895 being 198,673, as against 200,592 for 1894.

Altogether the British army is in a prosperous and healthy condition. The better looking after of the men, so that their position may be raised, will in a great measure do away with the prejudice that was often evinced by a probable recruit that while still hankering after the field where glory and renown were won, a soldier's life was bound by too hard an iron rule.

MEDICAL REQUISITES FOR CAMPS OF INSTRUCTION.

IN the past it has been held by those in authority that it was quite sufficient that the soldier attending a camp of instruction should have a pair of boots, an ill-fitting uniform, a threadbare blanket—he would be lucky if he were the sole occupier of it—and a shooting iron of some description. Times are changing and public opinion is supporting the Government in the large proposed appropriation for new armament. The idea is now beginning to invade the sanctity of the official mind, causing a certain unrest, a disturbance of old and rusty notions that perhaps the medical service is not what it should be, that possibly the stores of medical comforts and appliances and even requisites are not of the latest pattern or are entirely wanting. What an official nuisance these doctors are! Why, hey are actually getting tired of supplying the camps with medicines and appliances free of charge! Something must be done to put down such rank mutiny. Why not cut off their cocked hats and feathers and uniforms! Why have any medical officers; they could be hired locally at a camp like the other beasts of burden. Some people think that the medical profession has no social status in this country, and therefore no influence. Such a notion is an absurdity. The medical profession is held in high esteem by all classes, and if the members of it have not thrust themselves forward it is because they probably did not feel any necessity to do so. The militia is alive to the fact that medical officers are most anxious to do their work as well in their sphere as the combatants in theirs, and that both are interdependent. Militia medical reform is a battle cry which will rally the best elements in the force.

AMBULANCE CLASSES FOR THE FORCE.

A MATTER of great importance to the military force of Canada is the institution of ambulance classes. At the present time only the ambulance corps attached to each regiment have the benefit of such an instruction. With such a state of things the surgeon has to be continually teaching new men as the old ones drop out. Why should not the ambulance class be open to the whole regiment? During the winter season, when there is no drill, would be a good time for such a class. It would be the means of always keeping that indispensable corps of a regiment up to a full state of proficiency. The ambulance corps could then be recruited from this class instead of as at present from recruits who put in a few nights' drill in the general class and then are drafted into the ambulance corps. Drawing their supply from the main body would be the means of filling up the corps with well-trained soldiers.

In all the Old Country volunteer regiments such a class is open to the several regiments during the winter months, and is taught by the senior surgeon. At the end of the session proficiency certificates are granted to those who pass an examination in ambulance work. Such a proceeding in our militia force would be a great boon, as in the event of an accident occurring any one of the men could apply his knowledge to a sufferer that might be the means of preventing a serious complication.

THE TORONTO HORSE SHOW AND THE ARMORIES.

IT is to be hoped that the Armories of the Toronto Garrison have seen the last of the Horse Show, at any rate during the drill season.

The granting of the drill hall for outside purposes was in the first place an imposition on the officers and men who have their headquarters there. The Toronto corps have waited for years for a suitable building in which a reasonable amount of comfort and convenience might be expected. For years the Queen's Own and Royal Grenadiers were compelled to practise battalion and company movements on side streets or squares poorly lighted; the 48th Highlanders since their inception have had to do the same.

It is to be hoped that in future the commanding officers will not allow outside influences to overrule their better judg-

ment. The Horse Show is a good thing and deserving of every encouragement, and its management is obliging and liberal, but it must not expect the use of the Armories another season. Other outsiders may as well accept this as a notice to quit and have it engraved on the tablets of their memory. One of the C. O's. who held out as long as he could against granting the use of the Armories for the Show which has just closed states positively that he will not agree to any such privileges being granted in the future.

GOING TO STUDY ABROAD.

Deputy Surgeon-General Ryerson, of Toronto, who has not been in the best of health this winter, thanks to the grippe, left for New York on his way abroad last Wednesday. He sails on the Werra for Gibraltar, whence he proposes to go via Seville, Cordova, Madrid and Burgos to Bayonne and Bordeaux to Paris, thence to London. On arriving at London he proposes to go through the course of instruction in the Volunteer School of Ambulance Instruction, and afterwards proceed to Aldershot for a short time. He will also devote some attention to the working of the Volunteer Medical Staff Corps and St. John Ambulance Brigade in London. He intends to return some time in June or early July.

CIVILIAN DRESS ON PARADE.

THE various city corps are now parading about their full strength. Whether the dark uniform of the Rifles or the scarlet tunics of the infantry, they present a picturesque sight from the gallery. When going through the various battalion movements they appear to advantage, but in most of the corps there is to be seen at intervals in the ranks some volunteer in plain clothes. This is not as it should be. One man so dressed spoils the otherwise nice effect. The company officers should put a finish to those parading thus. No doubt, the officers commanding companies are anxious to parade as strong as possible, but they should not put this before military etiquette. It presents a very unsoldierly appearance, not to say slovenly, for no matter how smart a man, if he is so dressed he lacks the carriage and vim of one in uniform. It gives rise to unkind criticism on the part of the spectators. It is to be hoped that C.O.s will look into this and see that only men in uniform parade, even although at some cost to the strength of the regiment.

IT CAN BE PROVEN.

An officer in high rank in the militia states that he does not believe the statement made in these columns that drunkenness prevailed among the cadets at the military college. *THE GAZETTE* still holds to the statements made in its columns and is prepared to stand by them, too. Let an investigation be instituted and the present cadets be examined. It will then be found that *THE GAZETTE* has made no rash statement, but rather the reverse. It would, perhaps, be better that a public investigation was made so that the "foggy" atmosphere around the college may be cleared away.

ANOTHER COUNTY HEARD FROM.

EDITOR MILITARY GAZETTE:

SIR,—In your issue of April 1st under the heading "Municipal Grants to the Militia," mention is made of the grant by the County Council of the County of Halton, and that you are not aware that any county in the other provinces does as much.

I do not know about the other provinces, but the county of Wellington and city of Guelph in this province set the example many years ago, to my knowledge. The city and county have been giving 25c. per day to each man who attended the annual drills in addition to his Government pay for the last fifteen years, and how much longer I do not know, besides subscribing liberally to the Rifle Association. The citizens always contribute well towards the prize lists, and at the last meeting of the County Council of the County of Wellington the amount was raised from 25c. to 40c. per day, so that the gunners and riflemen will draw 90c. per day while at camp. I think old Wellington and the city of Guelph have always led in showing their appreciation of the boys in blue and green, viz., the 1st Brigade Field Artillery and the 30th Battalion Wellington Rifles.

Kindly insert this so that others may follow suit.

Yours, etc.,

FRICION TUBE.

Guelph, April 8th, 1896.

[What Wellington has done other counties can also do. Somebody whispered that Grey County has also been very liberal in its treatment of her boys in red. Perhaps the C.O. of the 31st will enlighten the readers of *THE GAZETTE* on this point.

ED. MILITARY GAZETTE.]

Col. Ruttan, Winnipeg, states that the 19th Battalion will commence drill this month, the exact date not having yet been fixed.

MEDALS AND GREAT COATS.

ST. JOHN, N.B., April 18.—There is not much military news to be given from this city at this time of year; no drill has taken place as yet and none talked of. As before explained, we cannot drill in winter on account of the position and state of the drill shed, consequently just when the time comes to enjoy a summer evening's outing our men are expected to spend their time at the drill shed, or on a route march. It is a wonder our city corps obtain as many men as they do. In this respect we rather envy our brethren of Ontario and Quebec, who can drill in the winter and have their inspection early in the summer. Another advantage those corps have is in the opportunity for "outings" which they enjoy, having so many cities near them, while here we have few chances of taking our men on a trip. Truly the militia of the Maritime Provinces labor under many difficulties.

Lieut.-Col. Gordon, of No. 4 Company Royal Canadian Infantry, left here yesterday by the Lake Ontario en route for Aldershot, where he will take a course of three months. There is no more popular officer in Canada, and the force here are glad of his selection for this duty. We had hoped that he might have got his promotion to the command if Col. Maunsell had been appointed Adjutant-General—as many here think he should have been, at least on account of his seniority—but it seems ordered otherwise, much to our regret. A complimentary dinner was given to Col. Gordon by the officers and honorary members of No. 4 Company Mess, at which Lieutenant-Governor Fraser and other distinguished people were present. The R.R.C.I. band played him off at the station.

A capital band concert was given at the Opera House last week by the band of the 62nd Fusiliers, which was one of the best ever given in the city. The house was crowded, thus showing the popularity of the band, which now numbers 26 men, under the leadership of Mr. F. H. Jones, bandmaster. It is proposed to give monthly concerts during the year.

The Canadian Rifle League will probably have an extra team enter this year, as the St. John County Association have agreed to enter, besides the usual teams from the Artillery, Fusiliers and the Rifle Co. Now here is another disadvantage our force here labors under: The range is two or three miles away, and very inaccessible, yet the Intercolonial Railway—Government—passes within a stone's throw of the range, and we cannot get either free or reduced passage over the line. Trains can easily stop at a siding, and, if free transportation were given, it would help rifle shooting very much here. This, I am told, is done in Halifax, but here we cannot get a member to lift up his voice to obtain this boon.

It is now about four years since we first

heard that the Canadian Militia were to get the Long Service Medal, and we are about as near it as ever, but are told that on account of a technicality in the Militia Act, we are not entitled to it. Has the application ever been made to the Imperial Government? If so, what was their reply? And under what conditions will they grant Canadians the medal? Of course, we are not volunteers, in the strict sense of the word, but no one believes that the War Office would refuse to give us the decoration if it were asked for. We should push for this and not rest till we get it, or some medal for long service. If General Gascoigne wishes to become popular with the militia let him start the correspondence, and there is not the slightest doubt he can obtain the consent from the British Government for the issue.

As new tenders are to be called for great-coats, it is hoped that they will be made with detachable capes, so that in wet weather the men can use the latter instead of having to put on a heavy coat and cape. In most city corps many of the men purchase capes from Government stores and use them, thus showing their preference for them. The long cape will also afford better protection and more warmth in cold weather. Another suggestion: Let the coats be furnished with brass buttons, instead of the unsightly and unsoldierly black bone ones now in use. They would not cost much more, and certainly would look much better. Still another suggestion: Let the coats for the infantry be made a little brighter and better in appearance, with a blue collar, or something to distinguish the men of the force from cartmen, who wear old great coats purchased from junk stores, where a dishonest soldier makes away with his coat. It is thus very hard to prove Government property. The artillery wear red collars. Why should not the infantry have the same distinction? I hope this will catch the eye of the Quartermaster-General and that the old fogies in the clothing department will wake up from their sleep and adopt common-sense views in this connection.

We will probably get the long-expected four days' drill pay if the Government ever reach the Supplementary Estimates, but what about drill and camps for this year? It is time something was known about these matters.

Are you adopting my last suggestion and sending a copy of your paper to the heads of departments and members of Government with the "kicks" and "grievances" marked?

THOMAS ATKINS.

UNCLE SAM'S ARMY NO GOOD.

KINGSTON, April 16. — Lieut.-Col. Cotton, D.A.G., left on Wednesday on his journey to England, there to remain six months for instructional pur-

poses. Capt. Ogilvie, "A" Battery, and Staff-Sergt. Long, "A" Battery, started yesterday for England on a like mission.

Lieut.-Col. Vidal is at present acting D.A.G. of this (No. 3) military district. He arrived here on Monday last, and took over from Lieut.-Col. Cotton, D.A.G., the command of the district, which he will retain until Lieut.-Col. Cotton's return.

On Monday evening last the staff-sergeants and sergeants of "A" Battery, with about fifty civilian friends, entertained Staff-Sergeant Long of "A" Battery at a smoking concert in the reading room of the sergeants' mess at the Tete du Pont Barracks previous to his sailing for England. Sergt.-Major Stroud presided and warmly eulogized Staff-Sergt. Long, who, he said, was, next to himself, the senior non-commissioned officer in the corps, and would, when he (Sergt.-Major Stroud) retires, as he will do shortly, succeed to his rank. Staff-Sergt. Long, he said, was a good soldier and a popular and efficient non-commissioned officer who, during his stay in England, would learn a great deal regarding the breech-loading field gun drill, but who already knew all there is to learn about muzzle-loaders. Staff-Sergt. Long was spoken of most highly by others of his fellow non-coms, by the representatives of the local press and by other civilians present. He replied in fitting strain, and the evening was then given up most successfully to social enjoyment.

The officers of the 14th Batt. P.W.O.R., held their regular monthly meeting on Monday evening last, and decided to begin company drill this week.

The statement, made originally by an officer of the battalion, that Sergt.-Major Morgans, R.M.C., would retire from the 14th Batt., this year, and that his place would be taken by Color.-Sergt. Cannon, is contradicted, on the authority, and at the request, of another officer of the corps. Sergt.-Major Morgans is still the sergeant-major of the 14th., and there is no probability of his retiring. He will this season, as usual, act as instructor to the battalion. Color.-Sergt. Cannon becomes orderly-room clerk.

The Queen's Birthday Celebration Committee of this city, at its meeting on Friday night last, appointed Lieut.-Col. Cotton, D.A.G.; Lieut.-Col. Duff, 4th Hussars; Major Drury, "A" Battery, R.C.A.; Lieut.-Col. Hunter, 47th Batt.; Major Skinner, 14th Batt., and Major Drennan, Kingston Field Battery, R.C.A., a committee to invite an outside regiment to take part in the demonstration here on May 25th., and appropriated a sum of money for the entertainment of the visiting officers and men. A regiment has been invited, but which corps was selected as the recipient of the invitation will not be made known until an answer has been received.

Patrick Ahern, a deserter from the 8th King's Regiment, stationed last year at Hali-

fax, N.S., gave himself up to the police here a few days ago, and asked to be sent to his regiment, now doing duty in Barbadoes, W.I. The police refused to act in the matter, the Military Authorities here thought the deserter not worth the price of his passage to the West Indies, and he was set at liberty. Ahern said he deserted last summer, that he has since traveled over the United States, and endeavored to enlist in the Service there, but without success. He said he was induced to desert partly by the dazzling stories told him by Yankee visitors of the big pay and go-as-you-please life in the service of Uncle Sam. But he bitterly regretted that he had "made a fool of himself," as he said, and remarked that if he could get back to the "old King's" again he would ask no pay for twelve months.

Ald. Curtis and Walkem interviewed the Government on Tuesday regarding the location of this season's brigade camp, and were told that Kingston's chances depended upon the advantages in the way of convenient supplies, etc., the city can furnish. They were informed also that new guns have been ordered for "A" Battery R.C.A., and that a sum of money has been placed in the supplementary estimates, to cover the cost of repairing the Murney martello tower.

The information is given, on apparently reliable authority, that 2nd Lieut. A. F. March, formerly of the 8th Hussars, and more recently of the 4th Hussars, has been granted a commission in "A" Battery C.A.R.

A local officer of high rank states that he does not believe the statement of cadets and ex-cadets of the Royal Military College to the effect that drunkenness is prevalent in the college. He says the cadet who made such a statement should be compelled to prove his charge or admit its falsity.

Lieut. C. M. Strange, 14th Batt. P.W.O.R., is home from Montreal, spending a few days among his relatives and friends.

VEDETTE.

WITH THE ARMY.

LONDON, ENG., April 7—Col. A. S. Woods, late Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians), has been selected to fill the command of the 88th Regimental District, Galway.

It will be seen from the returns of the volunteer force for last year, that though the authorised establishment of 1895 was reduced from the 261,155 of 1894 to 260,968, the total of enrolled volunteers increased in that year by 376 from 231,328 to 231,704; whilst the efficient increased by 437 from 224,525 to 224,962, the non-efficient decreasing by 61 from 6,803 to 6,742. The total of efficient is made up of 147 light horse, 40,708 artillery, 11,713 engineers, 1,128 submarine miners, 169,875 infantry, and 1,391 of the Medical Staff Corps.

The Army Rifle Association have made some trenchant alteration in their rules and programme for 1896. In former years the

cavalry had just reason to complain of the disadvantage they were placed in in competing with the infantry for the Queen's Cup. Her Majesty has presented another cup, to be called the Queen's Cup for Cavalry. The second cup will be competed for by regiments of cavalry at home and abroad, and will take place under the rules that existed heretofore.

Why do not the Canadian Authorities take a leaf out of the book from the officers of the Military Rifle Association? At their last meeting it was reported that they were placed at a great disadvantage for the want of accommodation at Bisley. The only difficulty to be met with was the question of funds, and it was decided to make an appeal to the various regiments for subscriptions. This want of accommodation on the part of the Canadian Authorities is commented on pretty freely. Oh, Canada, when will you wake up to a full knowledge of your force's usefulness?

Military officers are all agreed that the Egyptian troops have greatly improved under British officers, but to meet the warriors of the Soudan they claim that a fair proportion of British soldiers should be kept in readiness to back them up.

The officers of the line think they are not given a fair show in the way of dress. It is proposed to substitute an undress coat of blue serge something after the style of the present fatigue jacket. At present infantry officers claim that provision should be made to attract, instead of detracting. They are sadly deficient in ornament, and this order will not meet with the approval of the officers.

Speaking about military dress, the provision of the Government to give pecuniary aid to officers of volunteers has not been favorably received by that body. It seems to have touched their dignity, and, in consequence of the disfavor with which the proposal was received, the War Office have made it optional with the C.O. as to whether they recommend an applicant for the aid.

Liberal pay has been offered by the Government for volunteers for service in the Egyptian army. The engagement is for five years, and will, no doubt, be taken advantage of by those eligible from the Imperial army.

The militiaman is getting pretty well whipped into line. He is, as a rule, of a meandering disposition, and in the course of half a dozen years may be in as many militia battalions. The regulations that are now in force are checking his meandering propensities. He is now tried for desertion by court martial, not by the civil powers, and the staff sergeants are being sent from one corps to another for the purpose of identifying absentees and men serving in more than one corps. It is to be hoped that in a few years the militia will be brought to a better state in this respect.

Owing to the opposition that arose over the proposal to grant a pension to the late Commander-in-Chief, the Duke of Cam-

bridge has declined to allow the proposal to go before the House of Commons. He gave 40 years to the service of his country and now retires with precisely the same income as he would have had had he never held the appointment.

To fit "Tommy Atkins" for private life, after he has served his period of enlistment, it has been recommended by the Authorities to encourage him to attend courses of technical instruction.

The batteries of artillery will still have to use the old pattern ammunition on account of there being such a large store of it and the fact that the new ammunition could not be properly used for practice until a reserve sufficient had accumulated.

The United Service Gazette, England, is strongly in favor of the Imperial Government accepting the offer of the 8th Princess Louise Hussars, New Brunswick. That paper says: "Highly gratifying is strongly felt to be the handsome and patriotic offer of the Canadian Militia Department to the Colonial Office of the 8th Hussars of New Brunswick for service in the Soudan. That the Authorities may see their way to avail themselves of the assistance thus freely tendered of a regiment 600 strong and well appointed is devoutly hoped. Such co-operation with us in Egypt would, it is believed, greatly tend to foster the idea of Imperial Federation, which is fortunately making such headway in Canada and the other British colonies, as well as at home.

The formation of a "regiment of gentlemen" does not seem to have found favor with the War Office. The application for enlistment to such a regiment was large, no fewer than 537 having made application, and of that number not a few were militia officers. In fact, it is stated that in one militia battalion alone all the officers below the rank of captain volunteered for such a regiment. It was hardly probable that the War Office would sanction such a course, which would be so detrimental to the militia. That such a proposal should fall through is to be regretted, and it is to be hoped that the country will not lose the services of men who, although they have failed to pass their examination, wish to join the army. Ninety of the applicants have made application to be attached to the Italian forces in Abyssinia, and 50 men to act as scouts have been offered to the Italian Government.

We are doing great things over here in the way of mobilisation. The arrangements for the autumn manœuvres are already beginning to take definite form, and it is expected that at Aldershot alone 40,000 troops will take part. That things are to be done on a grand scale may be assumed from the fact that £100,000 is to be asked for in the estimates. More militia battalions are to be brought together this year at the manœuvres than in any former years, sixteen battalions having been ordered to take part.

R.M.C.

MUSKETRY.

HINTS ON RIFLE SHOOTING.

Editor MILITARY GAZETTE :

SIR,—In THE MILITARY GAZETTE dated 1st April, "Rifleman" commented at some length on the annoyance experienced by "old shots" on the rifle range in having to act as musketry instructors to "beginners," and suggested as a remedy that there should be a paid instructor appointed for this duty. This is a consummation most devoutly to be wished, but meanwhile, "beginners" will have to depend largely, as in the past, on the "old shots" for counsel and guidance, and those who willingly devote a little attention to the "coaching" of beginners are doing a great deal to promote the efficiency of their regiments. Influenced by "Rifleman's" grievance, I beg to offer a few hints on rifle shooting, which an experience of many years as a musketry instructor in the Imperial Service leads me to think may prove useful to "beginners."

Before commencing to shoot it is essentially necessary to know how to take accurate aim and to align the sights readily on any given mark.

Snapping at a miniature target in the recognized military positions, standing, kneel-

ing and lying down, should be persevered in until able to press the trigger without a jerk or in any way deranging the aim.

Exactitude in aim and in the adjustment of the back sight is absolutely necessary for good marksmanship.

As it is difficult in the ordinary aiming and snapping of triggers to discover errors, these exercises should whenever possible be supplemented with a course of shooting with the Morris tube.

The Morris tube is a capital means of practice, even for the crack shot, especially in cases where access to ranges may be difficult and expensive. I have frequently observed that those who made the best shooting on the rifle range were those who were in the habit of practising with the Morris tube.

It is impossible to produce good shooting with a dirty rifle. On the other hand, if properly cared for, it can always be depended on to give satisfactory results. Great care should therefore be taken to keep the rifle clean and in proper order.

HINTS ON THE RIFLE RANGE.

Shun disputes and everything that would cause excitement.

While waiting your turn to fire avoid doing anything which would tend to weaken

the eyesight, such as staring at the target, unnecessary exposure to the heat and glare of the sun.

Find out from a friend who has fired the elevation and allowance for wind. You can satisfy yourself on these points by watching someone firing; don't go seeking advice of every casual acquaintance on these questions.

The best thing to blacken the sights with is camphor fumes.

See that the rifle is clean and in good order. Be careful of your cartridges; don't use those with bullets loosely fitting or dented or flattened at the "nose," as these bullets will drop short.

It is recommended to fire the first shot into the "pit," as a clean rifle will throw its shot high, and the advantage of the sighting shot is lost.

When it comes your turn to fire, look to your sighting elevation.

Be careful that the backsight is upright. Do not pull or jerk the trigger, but press it gradually, together with the small of the butt; do not hurry your shooting, and do not dwell long over your aim; if it is not satisfactory, bring your rifle down; never waste a shot; pause a while and try again.

In lying down be easy and unconstrained; loosen anything tight about you; avoid talk-



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ing and pay every attention to the business in hand. In taking aim don't close the left eye tightly, as it will cause the other to flutter, and thus interfere with the steady gaze so necessary to ensure a correct aim. Watch the direction of the wind by the flag at the butt.

After you have fired, extract your cartridge case, close the breech and watch for the signal of your shot; put it down in your register, together with observations about sighting, elevation, etc., not forgetting the date and hour of the day.

If the cartridge case is left in the barrel till it comes your turn to fire again, it is almost certain to stick fast as the barrel cools, and necessitate your using force in extracting it, and thus destroy to a certain extent that steadiness which should be maintained throughout the shooting.

When the breech is kept closed it prevents, to a considerable extent, the fouling of the barrel becoming encrusted.

Elevation is affected by variations in the density of the atmosphere, by light, heat and fouling and ammunition.

There is often a considerable difference between the actual elevation required and that marked on the backsight.

The atmosphere is comparatively heavy and dense on a dry day and requires more elevation to be used than on a damp day, when it is full of moisture and less dense.

The altitude of the rifle range above sea-level must be considered; the pressure on the top of a mountain being much less than on the plain at the foot; it is, therefore, essentially necessary that a careful record be kept of all observations, not forgetting the influence of the atmosphere on the fouling of the barrel.

On hot or dry days, when firing rapidly, the barrel becomes heated and the fouling dries quickly; the increased resistance offered to the passage of the bullet by the dry encrusted fouling necessitates more elevation being used.

On a hot dry day an increase of elevation is generally found necessary after the second or third shot; on the contrary, on a wet or damp day, although hot, the fouling becomes moist, offering less resistance; consequently less elevation is required.

On a bright day the foresight is distinctly seen, therefore higher elevation will be required than on a dark day, when the foresight being seen less clearly more of it is unconsciously taken up into the alignment.

The following are some of the chief instances which call for more elevation:

On hot dry days when the barrel is encrusted or gritty with fouling, after 2nd shot, after 4th, and so on.

Firing up hill.

Firing a dented or damaged bullet.

Sudden appearance of sun on a dull day.

Sun shining on sight and not on target.

Less elevation required when:

Firing towards sun down, lower after every third or fourth shot.

On a bright day, when sun is suddenly obscured by a dark cloud.

Firing down hill.

On damp days, the fouling being moist.

Wind blowing from the rear towards the target, according to its strength.

Sun shining on target and not on sight.

Hazy day, when there is a mirage.

Firing first shot out of a clean barrel.

Wind is the most conflicting element the marksman has to contend with. The most convenient method of making allowance for the wind, or drift of the bullet, is by using the bar sight or wind gauge. This is done by aiming from the right or left of the centre line of the bar, according to the force, bearing in mind that allowance is to be made on the windward side of the centre line.

Many successful shots are in the habit of taking aim at the lower edge of the bullseye. They claim that this ensures regularity in shooting. Some verniers have a scale for wind allowance, which is a good guide, but practice alone will enable one to use it with advantage.

Practice on the rifle range must be carried on exactly as if firing a match. Never omit to record the smallest observation. You are certain to reap the benefit when you come to consult it before firing a match. It will enable you to begin with greater confidence.

Note direction of wind by putting down initials of the quarter from which it blows, thus: S.E., south-east, and so on.

To register force of wind: C., calm; G., gentle; M., moderate; F., fresh; S., strong; V.S., very strong. To record the position of a shot on the target without the diagram: Place a dot close to the value of your shot in a position identical with your hit on the target, thus: If you have made an outer above the bullseye place the dot over your score, thus: 2; in the same manner, if to right, 2.; left, .2; low, 2.

If practising for a competition such as Bisley or Ottawa, do not deviate from your ordinary course of living with the hope of becoming steadier, for the change will disturb your normal condition and prove fatal to your expectations. J. R.

MILITARY RIFLE LEAGUE ENTRIES.

It is anticipated that there will be a large increase in the number of entries for the Canadian Military Rifle League. Last year there were 123, and this year, up to the 15th, some 94 teams had entered. In addition to those entered a large number of associations have written the League asking for an extension of time on account of their association meetings not having taken place. In Montreal

alone there are over twenty teams who intend entering but have not yet done so. From Ottawa and all the central points the same request has been asked. The League made application to the Government that the ammunition for the matches should be of the best and of the same quality, and asked the Government to cable an order for 100,000 rounds of Martini-Henry and 40,000 rounds for the Snider. The Government granted the request and the ammunition is expected to arrive by the first boat to Montreal. This step on the part of the League will be highly appreciated by marksmen who intend taking part in the matches. Following are the associations and number of teams entered:

Aubury Rifle Association, 1 team; Levis Rifle Association, 1; Truro, N.S., 2; Lambton, Sarnia, 1; 13th, Hamilton, 8; Pembroke R.C., 1; Tilbury East R.A., 2; 63rd, Halifax, 2; "A" Troop R.C.D., 2; 45th, Lindsay, 2; Glen Adelaide Rifle Association, 2; Saskatchewan, N.W.T., Rifle Association, 2; Cannington, Man., Rifle Association, 1; Battleford, N.W.T., Rifle Association, 2; No. 4, 5th C.A., Westminster, B.C., 2; 57th Batt., Peterborough, 2; 71st, Fredericton, N.B., 1; 68th Batt., Kingston Station, N.S., 3; Oswega, Ont., Rifle Club, 1; R.C.A., Quebec, 3; Victoria Rifles, Montreal, 3; Q.O.C. Hussars, Quebec, 1; Alberta, N.W.T., Rifle Association, 2; Orillia, Ont., Rifle Club, 2; 1st C.A. Halifax, 1; Canning, N.S., Rifle Association, 2; 72nd Batt., Farmington, N.S., 3; St. John, N.B., Rifle Club, 1; Windsor Mills Rifle Association, Quebec, 2; County Grey Rifle Association, Owen Sound, 3; 25th Batt., St. Thomas, Ont., 1; Sussex, N.B., Rifle Association, 2; No. 1 Co. R.R.C.I., London, 1; 48th, Toronto, 3; 43rd, Batt., Ottawa, 5; Sudbury Rifle Association, 1; 40th, Campbellford, Ont., 2; "A" Troop, Virten, Man., 2; 66th, Halifax, N.S., 2; 62nd Batt., St. John, N.B., 2.

With the teams who have entered, and those who intend doing so, it is anticipated that the entries will exceed 150.

Officers and men of the militia will help THE MILITARY GAZETTE very much if they and their friends in making purchases will give the preference to those firms which advertise with us. They can help us still further by recommending the paper to any firms who sell goods that are used by military men in every part of Canada, either as military men or in their private capacity. tf.

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30 April	Numidian	16 May	16 May
7 May	Parisian	23 May	24 May
14 May	Laurentian	30 May	30 May
21 May	Mongolian	6 June	6 June
28 May	Sardinian	13 June	14 June
4 June	Numidian	20 June	20 June
11 June	Parisian	27 June	28 June

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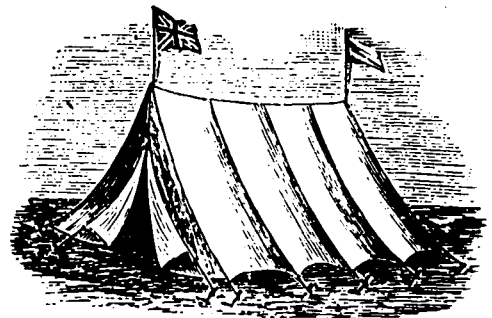
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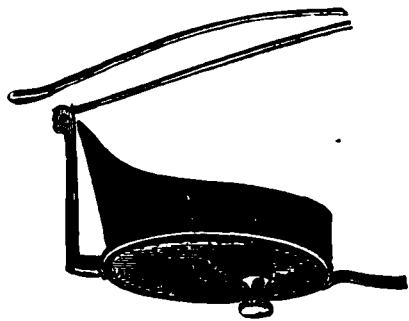
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CANADIAN MILITARY RIFLE LEAGUE.

THE following are the rules and regulations for the Canadian Military Rifle League matches for 1896. All prizes are sterling silver and a gold badge goes to every team entering the League for 1896. While entries closed April 15, yet post entries will be received up to date of first match. The early date was fixed upon by the Council in order that arrangements could be made for the supply of ammunition in ample time for the first match on May 16th. At the same time teams making a late entry will be themselves responsible if the supply of ammunition is delayed.

TEAMS.

The teams for 1896 to be composed of ten bona-fide members of any Battalion or Rifle Association.

There will be three series of prizes: 1st Series, Martini, Martini-Metford or Lee-Metford; 2nd Series, Snider; 3rd or Cavalry Series, 1st Section, Lee-Metford and Martini-Metford Carbines; 2nd Section, Snider and Winchester Carbines.

In the first series all the members of a team must use the same description of rifle.

Each Regiment or Association may enter any number of teams in each series, and it is not necessary to have the same men on a team in each match, or to send the names of those to compose the team to the Secretary previous to the match. Hand them to the Range Officer before commencing to fire.

No one will be permitted to fire in more than one series in the same match.

TELEGRAPHING SCORES.

Arrangements have been made with the Canadian Pacific Telegraph Co. for telegraphing the results of matches, and the charge for such service will be paid by the League.

Immediately after a match, the team number, (if more than one team is competing) rifle and team total must be telegraphed to the Secretary of the League (via C. P. Tel. Co.) (for example—"90th Battalion, 1st team, Martini 946."), and a complete list will at once be transmitted by telegraph to all morning newspapers at the following points: Victoria and Vancouver, B.C.; Winnipeg, Man.; London, Toronto and Ottawa, Ont.; Montreal and Quebec, Que.; St. John, N. B.; and Halifax, N. S., and official score will be published in THE CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE, a copy of which will be sent to each captain of team.

RANGES.

1st series, 200, 500 and 600 yards.

2nd series, 200, 400 and 500 yards.

3rd series, 1st section, 200, 500 and 600 yards; 2nd section, 200, 300 and 400 yards.

DATES OF MATCHES.

First Match, Saturday, 16th May.

Second Match, Saturday, 30th May.

Third Match, Saturday, 13th June.

Fourth Match, Saturday, 27th June.

Seven rounds at each range. The ranges may be shot in whatever order is best suited to local convenience.

POSITIONS.

200 yards, kneeling or standing; 300, 400 and 500 yards, prone; 600 yards, any.

SIGHTING SHOTS AND OTHER FIRING.

Only one sighting shot at each range.

Positively no other firing allowed by any one with the rifle to be used in the match, before commencement of his score.

SCORE SHEETS.

The Score Sheet must be properly filled out and contain the shot for shot detail, and weather detail, etc., and must be certified to and signed by the Register Keeper, Captain of Team and Range Officer. It must be sent by mail immediately after the match to the Secretary of the League. The Score Sheets provided must be used in all cases.

RANGE OFFICERS.

The Range Officers should not allow more men to fire at one time than they can personally oversee, and must appoint Register Keepers from other Corps or Associations. It will be their duty to see that all rules, etc., are properly observed, and that the conditions of the competition are strictly enforced. It will also be their duty to measure the Bullseyes and Rings of Target, to see that they are of the proper size.

Persons who are to check the markers in the butts must be subject to their approval. The names of those to compose a team must be handed to the Range Officer before the commencement of firing. After first shot is fired no change is to be made in the personnel of a team, but if requisite number of men have not arrived at the time of starting, leave the space for their names blank, and fill in on their arrival.

In a competition extending over the whole Dominion, and in which each competing team naturally expects the utmost accuracy and good faith on the part of all other teams, a great responsibility devolves on the Range Officers. They should understand the signalling, and the rules of scoring shots, where practicable they shall be selected from outside Corps or Association for which they are to act.

CAPTAINS OF TEAMS.

It will be the duty of Captain of team to assist the Range Officer in his duties, as well as to look after the interests of his team. He will send team's score as soon as possible after completion of match. He may arrange the order for firing for his men to suit himself, and will be personally responsible for the correctness of the score sheet.

ENTRANCE FEES.

The entrance fees are \$10.00 for one team, and \$5.00 for each additional team from the same Battalion or Association. All fees must be sent to the Treasurer on or before the 15th April.

When making entries care must be taken to state for which series they are intended, and if for more than one series, the number in each.

DISQUALIFICATION.

The penalty for non-observance of all rules is disqualification of team in which offender may be.

The Executive Committee will strictly enforce all rules and regulations to the proper and honorable carrying out of these matches, and in order to do so must rely upon information being at once given by competitors of any infraction of rules, which may come under their notice. Attention is particularly called to this point, as complaints made without names of offenders cannot possibly be entertained. The Executive further consider that any member of this League not furnishing information of infraction of regulations which come under his notice can only be considered a party to these offences.

D. R. A. RULES.

Where not especially covered by League Rules the Dominion Rifle Association will govern.

AMMUNITION.

The Department of Militia and Defence will supply all teams taking part with ammunition free. But all ammunition not expended must be returned, or paid for, to that Department.

CHECKING MARKERS.

Where two or more teams are competing at the same place, an officer or non-commissioned officer from each Corps or Association competing should be supplied, whose duty it will be to superintend the markers in the butts. Where only one team is firing it will be necessary to have one practical, responsible rifleman, not connected with the Corps or Association, whose duty it will be to superintend the markers in the butts, and from whom, if necessary, a declaration may be obtained as to the correctness of the marking.

TARGETS—DIMENSIONS, ETC.

	AT 200 YARDS.	AT 300, 400, 500 AND 600 YARDS.
BULLSEYE.....	8 inches.	2 feet.
INNER.....	24 inches.	3 feet.
MAGPIE.....	36 inches.	4 feet.
OUTER.....	Remainder of Target 4 feet square.	Remainder of Target 6 feet square.

PRIZES.

Sterling Silver Salvers (suitably engraved with Dominion Coat of Arms, etc.) will be given in each series, proportionate to the number of entries received in each. Similar prizes for Civilian Association teams will be given.

BADGES.

The "League Championship" badge will be given to the three highest aggregate individual scorers in each series.

Each team entering will receive a gold badge. No badge will be given where a team has fired less than eight men in any one match.

SPECIAL.

Any Battalion having a team in League 1896, and bringing five new men to the Dominion Rifle Association Meeting, 1896, who shot through it, have free entry into the League of 1897, for one team, and for each additional five new men, an additional team free. By new men is meant, men who have never attended and shot through the Dominion Rifle Association matches in any previous year.

MINISTER OF MILITIA'S PRIZE.

Presented by the Hon. Senator Desjardins, Minister of Militia and Defence.

This prize is open only to members of a Battalion or Association which has a team entered in the League of 1896, and is to be competed for at the Dominion Rifle Association Matches, 1896. It will be awarded to the highest individual scorer in the All Corners Matches in the Grand Aggregate.

PRESIDENT'S PRIZE.

Presented by Lt.-Col. F. Massey, President C. M. R. League.

Open to teams of eight men from any Battalion or Association having a team entered in the League, 1896. To be won by the team having the highest aggregate in the All Corners Matches in the Grand Aggregate of the D. R. A., 1896. It will be necessary to name five of the men before commencement of the competition.

The expressions of Canada's loyalty and patriotism to the Mother Country, which evoke the admiration and pride of the whole of our Empire, are something beyond a mere string of empty words. She was the first colony to raise a regiment for the Imperial Army in the momentous times of 1858, and now she is fully determined to re-establish that old link which once united her people by the ties of kinship to our army. It is England's duty to advance and meet her, and thus show by deeds that she appreciates such devotion and loyalty by restoring the "Old Hundredth" to the land of its birth, and by this means opening up a channel by which Canada's sons of all ranks may be able to make a name and fame for

themselves as soldiers of the British Army and the Empire. We are firmly of opinion that the Dominion would do well to petition that their own old corps be given back to them, and in this they have our heartiest support.—United Service Gazette.

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WHAT A CONSERVATIVE PAPER SAYS.

THE MILITARY GAZETTE slates ex-Lieut. D'Arcy MacMahon, of the R.R.C.I., whose name was recently struck off the Militia List for slandering Major Wilson, in proper form, and in the course of its remarks it says: "D'Arcy MacMahon is a youth with a political pull. In fact, he comes of a family that has very successfully worked the Government for appointments." Unfortunately MacMahon is not the only officer in Canada's little standing army of whom the same may be said, and it is a great pity that such should be the case. Canada's permanent corps is a small but eminently efficient body of men, and the majority of the officers are enthusiastic and well-trained soldiers, to whose diligent efforts the success of the military school system is attributable; but in recent years a practice of making appointments by political influence has crept in, and the consequence is that there are now not a few young men holding commissions who have no personal qualifications for or interest in the profession of arms, but whose political friends have got them in just as they would have secured them a clerkship in the Civil Service, if the financial remuneration had been equal. In time of peace these "soldiers for revenue only" do not cut much of a figure, because the other men do the work, and that is all there is about it. But in case of war these gentlemen might have to be entrusted with the sole charge of a hundred men, or even a regiment, and then it would doubtless be found that the practice of allowing politicians to meddle with the military was ultimately expensive.—Hamilton Spectator.

AN INTERESTING MEMENTO.

A GENTLEMAN in Hamilton came across an interesting memento of the battle of Sobraon the other day. Among the papers of his father, a captain in the 16th Lancers, who took part in that engagement, he found a note written in faded ink on yellow paper, and dated the night before that battle, which was fought on Feb. 10, 1846, just half a century ago. It was written by a young subaltern, now an officer high in rank in the army, to his father, who was on picket at the Sutlej river, four miles in front of the army. It is written in imitation of the stilted diction of the East, and indicates that the writer was not weighed down with forebodings regarding his fate in the coming battle.

"To the commander of honor and glory post: Bismillah! we are all safe, but thou hast blackened thy face by sending thy companies in such haste with tidings which tendeth so much to derange the nervous system. However, on thy head be it should thou not be equally alert when real danger approach-

eth us, as in thy hands to-day in a great measure is our fate. Guard us. We have no wish at present to visit the hoüris and as little to sing hallelujah (our preference for some years to come being decidedly God save the Queen).

"Therefore, old man, let thy vigilance this night watch over our safety that we may live to bless thee and not pray for the defilement of thy father's grave.

"Inshillah! in God's hands be it. So Salaam, take care of thyself. Old Foster has just called, and we're going to have a time. Our swords are sharpened, our pistols loaded with slugs and lances keen."

Next morning the battle was fought, which resulted in one of the greatest victories ever won by British arms in the East. Sir Hugh Gough lost 2,300 men, but the Sikh army was destroyed and 67 pieces of artillery captured. The Foster mentioned in the letter died last month, a baronet and K.C.B. At a dinner held on the last anniversary of the battle only 16 survivors of the 16th were present.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Another addition to regimental histories has been added in the form of the "History of the New Brunswick Regiment of Canadian Artillery," compiled by Cap. J. B. M. Baxter, a member of the New Brunswick Historical Society. The book contains many interesting facts of the regiment since it was formed in 1793. Capt. Baxter has treated his subject well, and has linked the various events in such a manner that there is no difficulty in following them with interest. The book is well illustrated and is the work of The Sun Printing Co., St. John. Exception is taken in the book to the fact that the N.B. artillery are placed 3rd on the list of oldest regiments, while the regiment was formed 18 years before the Montreal regiment, which is on the list as second, and 30 years before Halifax, which is placed first. The officers of the regiment published the book for private distribution and it is "respectfully inscribed to Lieut.-Col. Irwin (late R.A.), Assistant Adjutant-General for artillery, as a recognition of his efforts in placing before the artillery of Canada the highest standard of excellence for their imitation."

Recently the attention of American officers has been drawn to the indiscretion of permitting foreigners to note the development made in war material in the States. The effect was the determination by the Navy Department to discontinue the practice of admitting representatives of other nations, either visitors or residents in Washington as attaches of the various legations, to the tests which are conducted at the Indian Head proving grounds. Now the War Department is likely to follow suit.

THE VOLUNTEER OF TO-DAY.

A LECTURE, entitled "The Volunteer of To-day: His Military Status, Duties and Training," was given before the members of the Royal United Service Institution by Major Rickards, of the London Rifle Brigade. Col. Sterling, Scots Guards, presided. Major Rickards, in his prefatory remarks, said his lecture was intended as a signal to that which was given by Col. Balfour at the Institution in November. He, although having had the advantage of twenty-three years' volunteer service—in the ranks and as officer—did not claim to possess any special experience of his subject, but excused himself for addressing his fellow-members on the grounds of the great interest he took in all connected with it.

Dividing his matter under the three general heads of Military Status, Military Duties, and Training, the lecturer said the volunteer was a member of the military forces of the country for defensive purposes only, giving his services without pay, with a view to acting as an auxiliary to the regular and militia forces of the country when invaded by an enemy; and his training must be sufficient to enable him, at short notice, to act as a member of such a defending force in his own country. It was hardly necessary to point out that a very small part of his time, and a comparatively small part of his thoughts and energies, could be given to learning his military duties, or even to military subjects, because the volunteer in the ranks to-day is almost invariably a bread-winner. When the present volunteer force sprang into existence in 1859, there were, comparatively speaking, considerable numbers of country gentlemen, and men of good private means, to be found in the ranks of the volunteers, who were masters of their own time, while the ranks are now almost entirely filled with men whose hours are not their own; and who can only take holidays, and get away for training, when their civilian superiors allow them to do so; and who would lose their employment if they absented themselves without leave; for in these days of keen commercial competition the employers, he regretted to say, were not by any means too ready to show their patriotism by giving their employes even three days' holiday in order to go into camp and learn how to defend their masters' warehouses or shops in case of need.

The military duties for which the volunteer should be trained are those which he would have to perform in co-operation with the regulars and militia in case of invasion; and although he assumed the probability of the volunteers being called out, say, from seven to thirty days before an actual landing of foreign troops could take place, so that they would have some time to shake down into their places and improve on their previous training, he considered that they

ought, to the utmost extent their civilian occupations would allow, be sufficiently trained in time of peace to take their place in the firing line at short notice. The volunteer should be sufficiently trained to be able at short notice to take the field in order to stop or check a landing force, and so give time to put in the field and concentrate a substantial or sufficient part of the defensive forces available in the United Kingdom. In regard to training, the lecturer said the military discipline could not become a habit in a volunteer in the same way that it did in a regular soldier, because the latter was always subject to it and conscious of it; while the volunteer was subjected to it for but a very small part of his life, and was often an independent worker, who was not subject to the orders of any immediate superior, and was accustomed to act only in a manner that commended itself to his individual intelligence; or he was a man who had made his own way, and thought his own opinion at least as good as anybody else's. He must, therefore, be shown that obedience is necessary to the very existence of a military body, and he must be reasoned and expostulated with, and if he could not see the importance of it and submit himself to it, he should be got rid of; but this would not be often necessary if he were properly handled and his officers were fit for their work. Speaking as captain of a company of volunteers, Major Rickards said he thought even though obedience would not become a stereotyped habit with the volunteer as with the regular, the officer could, if he were the right man in the right place, maintain discipline with men tired out with marching and exhausted from want of food. He believed that they would obey, though they might think their captains or superior officers were making blunders. He also believed they would preserve discipline and order, more especially on occasions when, as would be the case if called out for actual service, they would be acting with regulars; and could not fail, in view of the national state of feeling that would exist if invasion were even seriously apprehended—much more so when it was actually taking place—to be thoroughly in earnest. Hardly less important than the thorough efficiency of the officers is that of the non-commissioned officers, who are brought into more immediate contact with the men, and have, of course, not infrequently to supplement a want of knowledge in the men themselves.

The difficulty of getting suitable ranges must increase as the power of modern rifles increases; but everything should be done to encourage position and aiming drill and Morris tube practice. In order to help and encourage volunteers to go to the ranges when they have learnt the preliminary drill as much as possible, the traveling allowance should be so increased as to put all corps on the same footing, and enable every man to

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Canadian Military Gazette Hotel Directory.

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Garrison Artillery Drill, Vols. I and II, each	0 50
Field Artillery Drill, 1893.....	0 40
Queen's Regulations, 1895.....	0 65
Infantry Drill.....	0 40
Manual Firing and Bayonet Exercises, with the order of Guard Mounting for the Canadian Mil.....	0 20
Gordon's Company Drill.....	0 50
Gordon's Battalion Drill.....	0 65
Otter's Guide, 1884 edition.....	1 00
Macpherson's Military Law.....	1 00
The Army Book.....	2 00
Infantry Sword Exercise, 1895.....	0 40
Manual for the Lee-Metford Rifle.....	0 20

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MILITIA.

SEALED TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY FOR THE Permanent Force and Active Militia, of Necessaries, Barrack Stores and Camp Equipment, consisting of Boots, Socks, Under Clothing, Shirts, Razors, Brushes, etc.; Rugs, Sheets, Corn Brooms, etc.; Blankets, Waterproof Sheets, Marquees; Saddlery and Nunnahs, will be received up to noon, Friday, 8th of May, 1896. The tenders are to be marked on the left-hand corner of the envelope: Tender for "Militia Store Supplies," and are to be addressed to the undersigned.

The contract for Boots is to cover a period of three years from the 1st July, 1896; those for Necessaries, Barrack Stores and Camp Equipment are for one year from 1st July, 1896.

Printed forms of tender containing full particulars may be obtained from the Department at Ottawa, at the offices of the District Paymasters at London, Toronto, Kingston, Montreal, Quebec, St. John, N. B., and Winnipeg, Man., and the office of the Deputy Adjutant-General of Military District No. 9, Halifax.

Every article of Necessaries, Barrack Stores, etc., to be furnished, as well as the material therein, must be manufactured in Canada, and similar in every respect to the sealed pattern thereof, which may be seen at the office of the undersigned at Ottawa. This does not apply to material for saddlery. Neither sealed patterns, nor samples, will be sent to parties desiring to tender.

No tender will be received unless made on a printed form furnished by the Department, nor will a tender be considered if the printed form is altered in any manner whatever.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted Chartered Canadian Bank cheque, payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Militia and Defence, for an amount equal to ten per cent. of the total value of the article tendered for, which will be forfeited if the party making the tender declines to sign a contract when called upon to do so. If the tender be not accepted, the cheque will be returned.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

A. BENOIT, Capt., Secretary.

Department of Militia and Defence,
Ottawa, 15th April, 1896.

EVEN A GOOD FRIEND

May turn against you in the morning. Certainly inferior whiskies will. Not so with

MITCHELL'S

Scotch Whiskey

It is pure, old and pleasant. The favorite with Scotchmen at home. The favorite with all who try it abroad.

Sole Agents for Canada

LAPORTE, MARTIN & CIE.

72 St. Peter St., Montreal

Halt!

It is sometimes necessary to come to a standstill and consider the condition of your health. . . .

KEEP YOURSELF IN CONDITION

As well as your accoutrements. There is no better way than to take

Johnston's Fluid Beef It Strengthens

go to and from the range by rail five or six times a year free of expense, or at any rate a sufficient number of times to complete class-firing. An arrangement should be made between the military authorities and the railway companies, so that the former might obtain, at a reduced rate, railway tickets when going to shoot at the ranges. The less well-to-do of the corps are at present at a great disadvantage, in comparison with the better-to-do regiments, in respect of practice on the ranges; and as free ammunition is already issued by the Government for the purposes of class-firing, a further concession should be made, and arrangements should be made, not only for the ammunition, but for free railway passes to the different ranges from the nearest railway stations to the headquarters of the companies, for the purpose of using that ammunition; and, if that were done, the present minimum of firing at a target, viz., twenty-one rounds, if a man obtains 30 points in firing through his third class, should be increased to forty-nine rounds, the minimum number of rounds necessary to firing all three classes and becoming a marksman. The lecturer said he hoped the day was near when prizes would be allotted in far larger proportion than at present to volley firing and field firing competitions. Individual target practice was only a means to an end, and the donors of prizes should empower the National Rifle Association, in some cases at any rate, to alter prizes for individual firing into prizes for volley firing, and that regimental and company prize money should be devoted to the same end. He hoped the day was near when field firing by a battalion would become part of the annual training of every volunteer corps; but, of course, to do this there must be suitable ranges.

After referring to the camping regulations and the conditions of the higher and lower allowances, he said there was the strongest reason for requiring the attendance of volunteers of all ranks in camp, preferably under canvas, or else in barracks at a military station, for at least three days in every year; in addition to the usual company and battalion drills in the evening and on Saturday afternoons or bank holidays. In camp we get the full attention and time and energies of the volunteer. On Saturday afternoons he has generally done a hard week's work, and is to some extent tired or languid. We cannot teach him outpost or even sentry work, much less field work, such as digging shelter-trenches and hasty intrenchments, on an ordinary Saturday parade, held probably in a public park; and he has hardly time to give his mind and attention to his work and get into his stride, so to speak, before the parade is over.

Major Rickards would also suggest that a company of men, specially recommended by the captains of their companies, and approved by the commanding officer, should

be given facilities for being attached to a regular regiment at army manœuvres, a grant for proper expenses and rations, etc., of course, being given. He knew one case of a volunteer battalion that did attend the army manœuvres in Berkshire, and did their work to the satisfaction of the military officers in command. He doubted whether every volunteer battalion, as a whole, would be a welcome addition to a general's command at army manœuvres; but all volunteer battalions could send one, two or more serviceable companies to be attached to a regular regiment for such manœuvres. The Volunteer Act, 1895, provides for a part of a volunteer regiment being called out for actual military service, in which case they would form part of a regular regiment, and what is now proposed is a step in the same direction.

Regarding physical examination, the opinion was expressed that every volunteer, before he is enrolled, should be medically examined, and certified sound and fit for moderate military work. At present, the volunteer regulations require that a volunteer artilleryman must be 5 feet 6 inches in height, and have a chest measurement of at least 32 inches; and any other volunteer must be 5 feet 3 inches in height, with a chest measurement of 32 inches. This is not sufficient, even if it were adhered to; and he does not think it is necessary that the examination should be as severe as in the case of the regular, who may be sent to unhealthy climates, and have to undergo long periods of hard work and bad food and conditions in those climates. The fact that a man is a volunteer should mean that he is a man of sound and good physique, and able to exchange sedentary occupation, which is what the volunteer generally follows, for service in the field, without breaking down. The medical examination should be repeated at the end of every five or seven years.

With a view to attaining the foregoing object, namely, some guarantee that every volunteer is physically fit to do in the field what may be demanded of him, he contended that every possible encouragement should be given to gymnastic and athletic exercises. This was the more necessary, because by far the larger number of volunteers are engaged in strictly sedentary pursuits; and although the better-to-do members of the force belong to football, rowing, cricket and gymnastic clubs, there must be many corps whose members are not well enough off to join such clubs, and whose occupations, if not actually unhealthy, are far from conducive to physical development or condition. Every regiment should, if practicable, have a school of arms and some gymnastic apparatus, besides, if possible, football or cricket clubs, and more time should be given to physical drill and bayonet exercise than is at present the case.

ANOTHER NEW RIFLE.

Dr. S. N. McClean, of Washington, Iowa, has invented an army rifle that is causing much astonishment among military men wherever it is exhibited. He has entered it in competition before a committee of the State Legislature of New York, which was appointed to equip the National Guard of the State with 15,000 new rifles.

The rifle has been fully patented. A single straight movement of the hand loads and fires the rifle. It has a capacity of five cartridges at present, and is filled by one movement from a case containing the cartridges. It is so constructed that clogging of the rifle or derangement of the cartridges is impossible. It is somewhat lighter than other rifles of the kind. As a test for endurance 750 rounds were fired in succession and the accuracy remained faithful throughout.

INSTIL A LOVE OF COUNTRY.

"If I were to find any fault with our present system of education in England, it would be to point out how little attention is paid to instilling in the minds of boys and girls of England a love for the country to which they belong. I have spent a great many years in America, and I know the United States very well indeed, and it was always a matter of intense pleasure to me to go into an American school and hear the children taught the greatness of their own country; for though I did not always agree with the facts, which were not always facts and would not bear investigation, still it was a great thing that the children were being brought up with a feeling of conviction that they were the greatest nation in the world and were prepared to fight all creation. Well, we have learned a great deal of that patriotism, and had learned it before Board Schools were invented, but I confess I should like to see every Board School in this country teach that the first lesson the children had to learn was a love and admiration for the country and the Constitution under which we live and a determination to maintain that Constitution against all comers." So spoke Lord Wolseley at the Volunteers' Sergeants' Tactical Association.

It will come as news to Canadians to learn that they are slaves, and that their necks are under the iron heel of British oppression. This discovery has been made in Windsor, Ont., by a Canadian Independence Club, and the club is going to set Canada free. Such at least is the plan mapped out in long despatches which have been published in United States papers. It is an awful thing for us to be rudely awakened to a sense of our vile servitude, but all must be thankful for the noble men of Windsor who are prepared to strike the shackles from our wrists.—Montreal Herald.