

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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

Fourth Year.  
VOL. III, No. 66.

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, 4th OCTOBER, 1888.

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

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### MISCELLANEOUS.

## Topics of the Week.

The Eastern Townships Militia have just had another taste of active service, the 5th Cavalry and 58th Battalion having been engaged last week and this in protecting the line of the Hereford Colonization Railway, now under construction, from the vengeance of the Italian labourers, starving for want of the pay due them by defaulting sub-contractors. The force have been under the direction of Lieut.-Col. Houghton, D.A.G., and the Brigade Major, Lieut.-Col. Mattice. The Italians at first assumed a very threatening attitude, and a volley had at one time to be fired over their heads to overawe them; but they have since determined to behave themselves, and refrain from wreaking vengeance on the property of the railway. As on every other occasion, the troops called for turned out with the greatest promptitude, and rendered the most willing obedience, notwithstanding exposure to very inclement weather.

A circular letter has been issued from the War Office by Lord Wolseley to the general officers commanding at home and abroad, calling for a report as to how it may be considered necessary to improve the diet of Her Majesty's troops, and also the method of cooking. In the latter respect the consensus of opinion is to the effect that two systems which are on trial are much appreciated, but it is the opinion of officers commanding from whom reports have already been received that the chief drawback to the soldier's diet is that it is so similar day after day, and unless a man is able to supplement his meals by adding, at his own expense, fish, eggs, butter, cheese, etc., he cannot know what a change of diet is during the greater part of the year. It is alleged that the fuel allowed for cooking is insufficient, as also the meat ration, which, it is suggested, should be increased from three-quarters of a pound to a pound per day. Some of the reports complain about the quality of the flour supplied for the government ration of bread, and there are many advocates for an increased allowance of meat and a change of vegetable diet.

In future all officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the German Army, while serving with troops in the field, will be supplied with a bandage truss, which will enable them to dress their own wounds on the field of battle. This truss consists of an oilskin covering containing a linen bandage ten feet long, two small linen or muslin antiseptic compresses, and a safety pin. When a wound requires dressing, it is first to be washed with water, wine or spirits; the com-

presses are then applied to it, and the oilskin covering is superposed. Finally, the bandage is folded round the whole and kept in its proper place by means of the safety pin. This provident arrangement will protect the wounds from dust, smoke, and other causes of infection, until the arrival of the surgeon, and it is expected that the wounded will recover from the effects of their wounds with much greater ease and rapidity.

A British correspondent, writing on the Austrian Manœuvres, makes the following strong remarks regarding the Austrian Infantry:—"I have seen many little things that suggested loose discipline, particularly examples of officers repeating orders many times before they were obeyed, and scolding their men as housekeepers scold servants rather than as officers addressing disciplined troops. The poor fellows—I mean the Infantry—looked used up, dirty and overburdened. Once a charge was attempted, but it never rose to the dignity of a decent jog-trot, for the troops were so tired and so burdened with their accoutrements that they gave it up as hopeless. Perhaps they had not enough to eat, perhaps they had not had rest enough, perhaps they were badly handled—all three of these conditions may have existed to excuse their performance. Certain it is that it bore unfavourable comparison with similar work in the German Army. A very intelligent Artillery officer told me, later in the day, of the state of the provisioning department during the manœuvres, and if half he said is true it much resembles that of the British troops in the early part of the Crimea—that is, starvation at one point, surfeit at another. Austria has often been spoken of as lacking intelligent officers, and nothing that I saw during these operations was calculated to discredit that opinion."

Another scheme for providing the paid adjutants for the British Volunteer regiments is now being advocated. A *Morning Post* writer, signing himself "Economist," begins by suggesting that a proportion of the large number of Majors and Captains retired from the Regular Army should be employed as Adjutants of Volunteers at the rate of £150 a year each, in place of the officers on full pay now so employed, or rather, as soon as those now employed had completed their five year periods. Thus, he says, the country would save about £30,000 per annum, and a great number of retired officers would be kept in touch with the service. Colonel Stanley Bird, answering "Economist," protests against sending any "half-pay fossils" to the Volunteers, who, he says, have been enabled to make the tremendous strides they have made during the last few years "through having Adjutants appointed for five years only." "Economist" replies that he would not propose to employ any "fossils," but only officers who had not been for more than one year on the retired lists, or just about to be retired, and, moreover, to appoint them only for five years. Colonel Bird rejoins that the officers now appointed as Adjutants do often retire at the end of their five year periods, and that what "Economist" proposes is only what actually takes place (in some cases, we suppose he means). Concerning the discussion the *Volunteer Service Gazette* says:—"The only benefit that we can see in 'Economist's' scheme would be that of economy,

and we cannot help doubting whether that is what really commends his proposal to himself. He rather writes, we apprehend, in the interests of the retired officers. Now the economical question is not a very important one. The public can well afford to give a captain's pay to an officer engaged in instructing a Volunteer battalion, and we think that, on the whole, Colonel Bird is right, and that it is better to stick to the present arrangement than to give Volunteer Adjutancies as a sort of consolation prizes to those who are compulsorily retired from active service."

The reports which are now being prepared by the Infantry battalions at home stations with reference to the new magazine rifle for the British army state that the rifle stands exposure very well, and there is hardly any recoil. The shooting capacity of the new rifle is found to be good, the increased velocity and low trajectory compensating for difficulties with cross winds. The pistol grip is largely approved, and it is found that the rifle can be brought well on to the shoulder; but some volunteer marksmen who have tried the weapon believe that the grip with the left hand, as now arranged, is too far forward. In some cases the cartridge-extraction mechanism is spoken of as unsatisfactory, the ejector spring being found weak and unreliable. It is also suggested that the hand-guard is not sufficient protection in long-continued firing, the barrel becoming so heated as to be difficult to hold. The magazine is the subject of considerable comment. Without it the rifle is found easy of manipulation, but with it drilling is in several reports considered difficult. The provision of a "half-cock" has been suggested to prevent danger when the magazine is full. The spring inside the magazine has not in all cases been approved, it occasionally getting out of order and the cartridges jamming when filling the magazine and firing from it. One serious matter dealt with is the difficulty and delay caused by detaching an exhausted magazine and replacing it by the spare one, and it is stated that in these circumstances ten rounds can be fired more rapidly from the Martini-Henry than from the magazine rifle. Little fault is found with the sighting, and the back-sight arrangement for short distances has generally worked well. The dial-sight, however, through its exposure, is considered by some to be liable to injury. The bayonet is the subject of some adverse remarks, it being mostly regarded as too short and of little use for cutting or entrenching purposes. The trials are still going on at home and abroad, and will continue some time before the whole of the reports can be collected for examination.

### Battle Tactics of the Day.

(United Service Gazette.)

Sir Archibald Alison has recently issued two orders, both of them of more importance than may appear upon a casual reading.

That the occurrence of "casualties" among superior officers in battle shall be provided for by practising officers and non-commissioned officers on divisional field days in duties beyond their rank, and at the same time accustoming the men in such emergencies to receive commands from other than their own officers. When what may be called the "casualty" command or order is given as to senior officers of any rank, the officers of the next rank must be ready to take their seniors' duties immediately. Some idea may be formed of the great value of such an order when we consider the position in which officers are placed by the new conditions of battle forced upon us by the long range and rapid fire of modern rifles and cannon. The battle tactics of the future will throw upon officers of all grades greatly increased responsibilities, and try to the utmost their powers of perception and readiness of resource. No man is so capable of keeping his head and of retaining his coolness and inspiring confidence in others during trying moments as the one who has learned his duty, only as a man can learn it, from calm and careful practice at times and under circumstances in which he could centre all his thoughts and energies upon what he was learning. British soldiers, officers and men have earned from foe and friend credit for possessing qualities such as coolness, individual self-reliance and stubborn endurance, which should make the conditions of modern battle fall in their favor, as those conditions demand more than ever the exercise of those very qualities. The mere possession, however, of these qualities is not suffi-

cient. They need in all ranks to be cultivated by a system of training which shall admit of their full play, and an amount of practice which shall develop them to the utmost. Such a training is doubly necessary with the present generation of our Regulars and Auxiliaries, as we have to break with past traditions and habituate our men to formations and movements inconsistent with nearly all they have learnt, and with most of the drill in which they have been so sedulously practised up to this day.

This remark, however, applies to foreign troops with far greater force than to our own. To men trained to fight in column, even when under fire, the new style is a *revolution*; but to our men, able to fight in line, it is at the most a *change*. The extended order—necessary now under fire—is literally an extension, or an expansion of the line; but as the men lose the "touch," and, until thoroughly habituated to the new order of things, the confidence inspired by "shoulder to shoulder," they will, during the transition period, need more than usual constant training. It must not, however, be forgotten that the chief ingredient in giving the British soldier the same confidence under the new conditions as he had under the old is *the making him thorough master of his weapon*.

2. That the troops shall commence the practice of operations by night. The orders are for portions of the troops to take up positions covered by outposts, to repel attacks made under cover of the darkness, and none but Infantry battalions are to be used in the manoeuvres.

This order will no doubt cause astonishment in many minds, as students of military history and strategy know that night operations are not as a rule regarded favourably by great military writers; but in military affairs as in other affairs of life, "the old order changeth." Sir A. Alison is wise in thoroughly appreciating his responsibility for the efficiency of the men under his charge, and that it is his duty to prepare them as far as he can for every contingency. It is, perhaps, a truism to say that the most successful military leaders are those who can best adapt themselves to the circumstances in which they are placed. A man in Sir A. Alison's position has to consider that a night attack when successful is almost invariable demoralising and disastrous to the defeated Army, and that, notwithstanding precepts to the contrary, there are commanders who would not hesitate to risk such an attack if they knew that their enemy had never been trained to meet it.

### Magazine and Small-bore Rifles.

(The Times, 4th September.)

An interesting document has been written by Colonel Slade, vice-president of the Small Arms Committee, and printed by order of that body. It may be regarded as an official report on the history of magazine and small-bore rifles and a statement of the present attitude and intentions of the War Office with regard to those weapons. How important information on this subject is, can be gathered from the fact that in the report occurs the following passage, which may be taken as the deliberate official opinion of the technical advisers of the War Office:—"It may be taken for granted that the single breechloader will soon be as obsolete a weapon for military purposes as the muzzle-loader. How slow is the process of maturing ideas connected with military inventions is shown by the fact that in military museums are to be found some curious old military magazine guns at least 200 years old. It may here be mentioned for the information of the uninitiated that a magazine rifle is not necessarily a repeater, though, "practically speaking, all magazine rifles worthy of consideration are repeaters," which contain in their magazines from four to ten cartridges, according to the system.

How necessary it is that no undue or avoidable delay should occur in the issue of repeating rifles to the British army is proved by the almost universal adoption by continental powers of such a weapon. All the continental powers, Russia alone excepted, have either already adopted a magazine rifle or are taking steps to procure one.

Repeating rifles were first used by soldiers in the American civil war of 1861-64, the cavalry on both sides being provided with the Winchester and Spenser repeaters. In the Russo-Turkish war of 1877 the Turkish cavalry possessed large quantities of Winchester repeaters. In 1878 the French supplied their navy with the Kropatschek repeater. In 1885 some French battalions in Tonquin were three times repulsed by a body of Chinese who were provided with a Lee detachable magazine rifle. In the same year, at the conquest of Tunis, and again in 1885-86 in Madagascar, the French used magazine rifles. We do not learn that during any of the above-mentioned occasions magazine rifles proved themselves to be impressively formidable weapons. They were successful enough, however, to convince soldiers and inventors that with improvements in the arm, and practice in the use of it, great things might reasonably be expected.

Following the alphabetical arrangement of Colonel Slade's report, we will now briefly show how far the question has progressed on the continent. In 1886 the Austrians adopted the Mannlicher magazine

rifle, and 80,000 having been manufactured, were issued to the troops. The calibre is 0.433 in., and the magazine holds one packet of five cartridges. The magazine is a fixture under the rifle just in front of the trigger-guard. The worst of this system is that all five cartridges must be inserted in the magazine at once, and they must all be fired before another cartridge can be inserted. Count Sparre has, however, devised an invention by which he claims to be able to place either five cartridges at a time or a single cartridge on the breech, as may be wished. It is believed that the manufacture of the large-bore rifle has been stopped, and that a new rifle on the same principle, but with a bore of 0.315 in., has been adopted, and is about to be issued.

In Belgium, as a result of experiments tried in 1885-86, it was resolved in 1887 to issue to the infantry a 0.315 in. magazine rifle, with a detachable magazine. This rifle has three grooves, with a twist of one turn in 11.417 in. The charge is 57 grains of loose Rottweil powder, and the bullet, having a thin coating of steel, weighs 240 grains. It is stated that a 3½ in. deal board has been penetrated at 2,300 yards.

In Denmark trials have been taking place since 1883, and it is believed that the American Lee rifle, with a calibre of 0.315 in., will be adopted.

The French till lately possessed two descriptions of magazine rifle—the Kropatschek and the Gras. These being found unsatisfactory, the Gras-Label has been adopted, and 350,000 have been issued. Great efforts have been made—as might have been expected, without success—to keep everything connected with both rifle and ammunition a secret. How jealous the French government is on the subject is proved by a telegram from Nice published in the *Times* the other day, announcing that a retired German officer had been arrested as he was on the point of posting a package containing a Label cartridge. Concerning the arm and its ammunition, it would appear that the secret has been kept as regards the explosive, of which it is only known in general terms that it is a slow burning, smokeless powder, a product of collodion and gun cotton. As to other particulars, it is known that the bullet is of hardened lead coated with nickel, that the calibre of the rifle is 0.314 in. that the magazine holds nine cartridges in a tube under the barrel, and that the rifle weighs 8 lb. 10 oz. It is said that the trajectory is very low, and that the muzzle velocity is 2,200 ft.

Germany for some years past has devoted great attention to magazine rifles, and has issued a large number of converted Mausers which have eight cartridges in a tube under the barrel. The converted Mauser not having proved successful, it was decided to adopt a small-bore rifle. The precise pattern has not yet been finally decided on, but it is believed that the rifle of the future will be one with a magazine holding six or seven cartridges under the action just in front of the trigger-guard, on the American Lee system. The magazine can be filled when attached, or detached and a spare one ready filled substituted. The charge is 40 grains of Duttonhofer semi-smokeless chemical powder, giving a muzzle velocity of from 1,900 ft. to 2,000 ft. The calibre of this rifle is 0.295 in.

The Italians have lately substituted for the Vetterli rifle, with a magazine holding ten cartridges, the Vitali, weighing 8 lbs. 8 oz., having above the action a magazine which holds four cartridges, and a calibre of 0.408 in. This system does not find favour, and it is believed that before long a small-bore rifle on some other system will be adopted.

In Norway and Sweden no definite decision has yet been arrived at, though experiments have been going on for some years. The Portuguese first decided on adopting the Guedes 0.315 in. repeater, but becoming dissatisfied with it, they have cancelled a contract for 40,000 of these weapons, and it is believed that they have now adopted a small-bore Kropatschek magazine rifle with a calibre of 0.315 in., a charge of loose Rottweil powder, and a bullet of hardened lead with copper covering and weighing 246 grains.

The Spaniards are still only in the experimental committee stage. Russia has not yet definitely adopted a magazine rifle, and at present there is a disinclination to reduce the calibre. Switzerland is the only country whose army is entirely armed with repeating rifles, and has for many years used the Vetterli 0.409 in. rifle, with a magazine holding ten cartridges in a tube under the barrel. Since 1879 experiments as regards the bore have been going on, and there is a strong disposition to reduce the calibre to 0.315 in. The ammunition question, however, presents difficulties, and the Swiss are determined to go further into the matter before committing themselves to an extensive manufacture of small-bore rifles. In the earlier part of last year the Turks contracted for the purchase of 300,000 converted Mauser rifles.

We now come to our own country, where the question has been, according to public opinion, lagging in an indefensible manner. It may, however, be said in defence of our war office that we have profited by the experiments and failures of foreign nations, and that it is doubtful whether any of them have yet provided themselves with a thoroughly satisfactory arm. The question of the advisability of adopting a maga-

zine rifle for the British army has been under consideration since 1877, but it did not provoke much interest either in official circles or among the public. Then came the decision that the calibre of the rifle should be reduced, and it was resolved that a calibre of 0.402 in. should be substituted for the Martini-Henry calibre of 0.450 in. The decision was arrived at in 1885. In August of that year the small arms committee reported strongly in favour of a magazine rifle as the service arm. A large number of rifles of various systems had been submitted to the committee, but all but three had broken down under the tests applied. The three magazine rifles which had stood the tests were the Owerl Jones, the American Lee, and the improved Lee. It was sought to utilize the large existing stock of Martini-Henrys with their falling block action, but the latter seemed at first an insuperable difficulty. This difficulty, however, we are told in the report before us, "appears to have been got over by Capt. G. Harston, an officer of the Canadian army, who has succeeded in fitting a magazine on the left side of the action which feeds the cartridges into the chamber in a most satisfactory manner; and so far as can be judged, the invention promises to be one of much value, as, if it ultimately turns out to be thoroughly sound and practical, the whole stock of existing Martini-Henrys could be converted into magazine arms at a trifling cost."

(To be continued.)

## Regimental News.

### St. John, N.B.

The ball given on Friday evening last, by the officers of the New Brunswick Brigade Garrison Artillery, was a most delightful event. About two hundred and fifty ladies and gentlemen were present. All branches of the service were represented in uniform: the Staff by Col. Maunsell; the Cavalry of Kings County by Col. Domville and some of his officers; the Infantry by Col. Blaine and several of his; the Rifles by Capt. Hartt with others of his corps; and of course the Artillery were in force, with a large number of gentlemen who could set up no claim to don a distinctive uniform. And, of the gentler sex, no fairer display could anywhere be made. The decorations of the room were a fine achievement. The prevailing colours were those of the artillery—blue and red—with here and there a judicious intermingling of white, or a pleasing introduction of evergreen, while from some points on the walls gleamed stars of polished steel made up of infantry bayonets. A "break" in the room over the stairway was effectively concealed by a section of a fort, through the embrasures of which the "frowning cannon" disclosed itself. National flags and ensigns were carried along the upper wall, or hung out from it; the regimental colours of corps that now only live in the memory of old militiamen, as well as the colours of existing corps, adorned other parts of the room, and the national emblem was a conspicuous object. The windows were covered with half blinds, on which were representations in red of mounted guns. Set in the mosses, ferns or other decorations of the window sills were fairy lights in many colours. The stage had been converted, by a tasteful arrangement of rich drapery, handsome furniture and articles of *vertu*, into a pretty drawing room, so that it was both useful and beautiful, while the decorations of flags, plants, evergreens, which took the place of the footlights, might be conceived to be a masked battery, in which a keen spy could discover the deadly gun. Rifles with fixed bayonets made a *chevaux de frise* in front of the band gallery. The electric lights and the gas lamps, prettily shaded in primary colours, threw softened gleams over the rooms, and upon the many coloured dresses and uniforms that were in constant motion. In a word the decorations, both in general design and in detail, could not but satisfy the most exacting taste.

The guests were received by Col. J. R. Armstrong and Mrs. Armstrong, and by Captain and Paymaster George F. Smith and Mrs. Smith, who, with the officers of the Brigade, were courteous and attentive hosts. A programme of twenty dances, under an efficient floor committee, of which Surgeon Daniel was the chief, was disposed of with promptness, but not with undue celerity, to some very good music furnished by the Brigade band.—*St. John Globe*.

### The 66th Fusiliers at Inspection.

The 66th Battalion Princess Louise Fusiliers under command of Lieut.-Col. Macdonald, paraded on Thursday last, 27th ult., for inspection by the deputy adjutant general. There appeared a total of 293 all ranks, being the largest number the battalion ever had at an inspection. The men were in full marching order with great coats rolled crossing the left shoulder. Every man present was clean and tidy. At three o'clock the deputy adjutant general came on the ground and was received with a general salute, the battalion in line at open order. The D. A. G. rode down the ranks and inspected them, after which they broke into column



by the left, the men were marched into the drill shed and were relieved of their great coats. Forming up again on the parade they were then marched to the north common, headed by their magnificent band. The battalion formed column on the march by the left and were wheeled at the double on the point they then deployed, received the D. A. G. at open order, closed their ranks and formed quarter column by the right on number one company, then took ground to the right in front, moved into the alignment, and marched past in column, changed ranks and marched past in quarter column, changed ranks again and marched past at the double, then wheeled round the third point and formed one to the left on the rear company. Major Humphrey was then called out and put the line through manual exercise; afterward Major Weston put them through the firing exercise. The line was then advanced in echelon, and changed front to the right, after which the D. A. G. examined the company officers in company drill. Line was again formed and from that quarter column. The battalion then extended for attack, two companies, extending with two others for supports, and the balance in the reserve. After extending and advancing, the attacking line opened fire and were reinforced by the supports, and the whole formed an attacking line. Continuous fire was kept up until the whole 20 rounds per man was expended. The assembly was sounded and the battalion formed again and were marched off the grounds, parading through the principle streets and returned to the drill grounds, where the rolls were called and checked by the D. A. general and the paymaster, Lt.-Col. Murray. On the return home Captain Brown's company formed an advance guard which looked well, and practices the men and officers in that work which is too often neglected, although an important feature in military movements of the day. From the time the "fall in" was sounded until the parade was dismissed everything worked like clock-work. There seemed to be no hurry or confusion, and in every particular it was by far the best inspection we have ever witnessed, and as Haligonians we may well feel proud of the 66th battalion. We do not expect to see them any more perfect in their drill than they are at present, and it must be a source of great satisfaction to Colonel Macdonald and his officers that they presented so creditable an appearance.

The following officers were on parade: Lieut.-Col. Macdonald, Majors Humphrey and Weston, Adjutant and Capt. Menger, Captains Kenny, Chipman, Browne, Whitman, King, Fishwick, Black; Quarter-master George W. Hart, Assistant Surgeon M. A. Curry; Lieutenants Hole, Wilmot, Ritchie, Bremner.—*Halifax Herald.*

## The Rifle.

### The Dufferin Rifles Annual Matches.

The annual matches of the Dufferin Rifle Rifle's Ass'n. came off at the ranges in rear of the old Mohawk church on Wednesday, September 26th. There was an unusually strong turnout of members of the regiment and the scores generally were fairly good. The light was bad all day, and the wind blew a gale across the range interfering largely with good shooting. A new match "The Allcomers" was added to the programme this year and it proved so interesting that it will be continued. The greatest number of entries in any regular match was 41.

The first match, the nursery, was open to all the members who had never won a prize at any association, battalion or Dominion match. It consisted of five shots standing or kneeling at 200 yards. The following were the top of the fourteen prize scores: Pte. J. W. Fuller, 20; Mr. S. Henderson, 19; Pte. Schmidlin, 19; Pte. W. Harper, 18; Pte. J. Gillen, 18.

### SECOND MATCH—ALLCOMMERS.

Open to all residents of the county of Brant. Under same firing conditions as nursery.

Sergt. Donahue.....	21	Pte. W. Gillen.....	19
Pte. J. W. Fuller.....	20	Pte. C. E. Strowger.....	19
Col.-Sergt. Wood.....	20	Col.-Sgt. Thompson.....	19
Pte. Doyle.....	20	Mr. J. A. Wallace.....	19
Capt. Christie.....	20	Pte. Huffman.....	19
Lt.-Col. Jones.....	20	Pte. D. S. Henderson.....	19
Pte. Schmidlin.....	19	Corpl. Miller.....	18

### THIRD MATCH—ASSOCIATION.

Open to all members of the association. The first prize the Merchant's Challenge Cup, valued at \$18 and \$5 cash. Range 600 yards, 7 shots. The prize scores went down as low as 7 points for the fifteenth. The leaders were: Pte. O. Ashbury, 20; Lt.-Col. Jones, 19; Capt. McGlashan, 19; Sergt. Donahue, 18; Pte. McDonald, 15.

### FOURTH MATCH.

For the fourth match, the scores in the third to count, in place of officers vs. retired officers, two teams of officers competed with the following result:—

Capt. McGlashan.....	19	Lt.-Col. Jones.....	19
Lieut. Howarth.....	7	Lt. Bishop.....	6
Capt. Kidney.....	7	Capt. Christie.....	6
Lt. Killmaster.....	3	Capt. Wilkes.....	2
Major Jones.....	2	Major Rothwell.....	0
Total.....	38	Total.....	33

### FIFTH MATCH—REGIMENTAL.

Open to all members of the regiment. The first prize is made up of the Officers' Challenge Cup, valued at \$22, and \$6 cash. Ranges 400 and 500 yards. Five rounds, short snider rifles.

Sergt. Donahue.....	38	Sergt. Dunlop.....	25
Pte. McDonald.....	35	Corpl. G. Prouse.....	25
Pte. O. Ashbury.....	34	Sergt. Major Barber.....	25
Lieut. Bishop.....	31	Pte. C. E. Strowger.....	25
Col. Sergt. Wood.....	30	Pte. D. S. Henderson.....	24
Sergt. Stephenson.....	29	Lt.-Col. Jones.....	24
Pte. Fuller.....	28	Pte. A. Doyle.....	24
Pte. Corey.....	28	Pte. W. Harper.....	23
Pte. Schmidlin.....	26	Pte. W. Strowger.....	23
Col. Sergt. Thompson.....	25	Corpl. Harper.....	21

### SIXTH MATCH—COMPANY.

Open to teams of five previously named officers, non-commissioned officers and men from any company of the regiment. The first prize is made up of the company Challenge Cup, presented by judge Jones, valued at \$20 and \$5 cash, seven in fifth match to count.

"B" Company.....	156
"D" Company.....	120
"A" Company.....	108

### SEVENTH MATCH—THE DUFFERIN.

This match has always been keenly contested and those who have succeeded in winning one of the handsome medals awarded each year by the distinguished patron of the regiment, the Earl of Dufferin, are as proud of the trophy as possible. Entries to this competition are confined to prize winners in the Regimental match. Ten rounds at 500 yards. There were eight competitors with short sniders. The best scores made were as follows: Pte. McDonald (Dufferin medal) 38, Col.-Sergt. Thompson 31, Pte. Ashbury 30, Col.-Sergt. Wood 18.

Lt. Col. Jones, Lieut. Bishop, Pte. Fuller and Pte. Henderson were out of the race as it was getting dark and rain was falling. Pte. McDonald's score was the nearest that has been made to the top score made by Surgeon Harris some six or seven years ago, when the medal was first given for competition.

### EIGHTH MATCH—EXTRA SERIES.

Snider. Five shots at 500 yards.

Pte. Ashbury.....	19	Sergt. Dunlop.....	14
Pte. Henderson.....	19	Pte. Corey.....	14
Lt. Killmaster.....	19	Pte. Schmidlin.....	14
Capt. McGlashan.....	18	Major Jones.....	13
Pte. C. E. Strowger.....	17	Col.-Sergt. Wood.....	13
Pte. W. Strowger.....	16	Pte. W. Fuller.....	12
Capt. Tuck, 37th Batt.....	15		

Martini—5 shots at 500 yards.

Pte. D. S. Henderson.....	23	Lt.-Col. Jones.....	11
Major Jones.....	17	Lt. Killmaster.....	7
Pte. C. Strowger.....	13	Capt. Christie.....	6
S.-Sergt. Lewis, Q.O.R.....	12	Pte. Corey.....	4

### GRAND AGGREGATE.

The Dominion Rifle Association Medal for the highest score in All Comers, Association and Regimental matches, was taken by Col.-Sergt. Donahue, with 77 points. Pte. Ashbury second with 70 points captured the Ontario Association Medal, Pte. McDonald took third prize of \$3, with 67, and Lieut.-Col. Jones, fourth, with \$3, with 63.

There was a heavy shower about noon that rather dampened things and the day generally was unpleasant. Better have the matches earlier, gentlemen.

On Wednesday, the 3rd October, the Tenth or Skirmishing match, will be shot off at 3 o'clock p.m. This match is for the handsome cup presented to the regiment by the Queen's Own Rifles and valued at \$250 and is open to teams of five previously named officers, non commissioned officers or men, from any company of the regiment.

### THE OTTAWA RIFLE CLUB.

At the fifteenth spoon competition of the Ottawa Rifle Club, on Saturday afternoon last—the firing was with the Martini at Queen's ranges—Lieut. S. M. Rogers, who has been astonishing himself all season by exceedingly high scoring, topped the list with 95 points, winding up with a "possible" at 600 yards—a rarity in Canada. He took two spoons, the first for the day, and an extra spoon for the possible score. The club has, since the beginning of the season of 1887, offered an extra spoon for a possible at any range, and this is the first

time one has been earned. Capt. J. Wright won the teaspoon offered for second score.

Lieut. S. M. Rogers....	32	28	35	95	Major H. T. Perley.....	28	23	27	78
Capt. J. Wright.....	29	28	30	87	A. Pink.....	26	29	23	78
Lieut. H. H. Gray.....	29	29	27	85	T. C. Boville.....	28	28	21	77
J. E. Hutcheson.....	24	32	27	83	R. Stewart.....	27	27	21	75
Capt. A. P. Sherwood...	30	24	28	82	N. Morrison.....	28	23	21	72
T. Carroll.....	30	29	23	82	Lieut. J. H. Fairweather	25	25	18	68
W. A. Jamieson.....	30	25	26	81	C. S. Scott.....	26	27	14	67
Major W. P. Anderson...	28	31	22	81	R. Moodie.....	24	21	20	65
E. D. Sutherland.....	26	27	27	80	F. W. Smith.....	28	24	13	65
J. P. Nutting.....	26	22	30	78					

### Correspondence.

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

#### THE STANDARD OF TRAINING FOR THE MILITIA.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—I see that by the issue of a recent order the authorities have realized the importance of making good marksmen of our soldiers, and accordingly the issue of small arm ammunition to the permanent corps has been increased. This is certainly a move in the right direction, but much remains yet to be done to bring the training of the Canadian Tommy Atkins up to the required standard.

The main defect is that much valuable time is lost in educating our soldiers to perform with minute accuracy a number of parade movements too numerous to mention, and to "wheel like a gate," whereas instruction which is seen to be of use in the field is totally ignored. If one can question the importance of some knowledge, however slight, of outpost duties, scouting, reconnoitering advance and rear guards, fire discipline, entrenching and signalling, although nothing seems to be done towards improvement in these very essential branches of the soldier's education. The Major-General commanding, who always has the interests of the militia at heart, has recently taken the lead in delivering a lecture on outpost duties to "B" Co. I.S.C., and it is my humble opinion that the example of so distinguished a man as General Middleton should be followed by all those who are in a position to do so. During peace time, soldiers are very apt to forget even the reason of their existence as such, unless something is done to remind them that at all times they should be ready to take the field, when every man is expected to know his duty thoroughly, and where ignorance is no excuse. How many of our n.c.o.'s are there who can post a sentry properly, or who on being sent out with a reconnoitering party can return giving an intelligent report? I am sorry to say that they are few!

Now, sir, the days of clumsy barrack square movements have come to an end, and although I am not a Radical, I firmly believe in reforms when they are needed. We must make up for our lethargy, and the state of inactivity into which we have fallen, and look upon things with the eyes of soldiers of the great 19th century, and not those of the warriors of Cæsar or Hannibal! The soldier of the present day should be quite a different man from what he was a century ago. As regards drill, I am sure that many old soldiers are mourning the loss of several favorite movements, cancelled by the order of April, 1888, but fortunately they have been disposed of wisely, and for my part, I wish that the march past, and other antiquated relics were similarly dealt with. In our annual drill camps, why are not one or two of the corps placed in "a state of war," as is done with the Flying Columns at Aldershot?

But I fear that I am reducing to ashes a considerable portion of our military work without substituting something better! The substitution is easily made. With all due respect to our inspecting officers, why should not the usual humdrum method of testing the efficiency of a corps be deviated from, and the officers be called upon to perform movements they should have to do in actual warfare? Next, change the syllabus of instruction in the schools and employ the time wasted on the Manual Exercise towards instruction in the subjects I mention above, to which list I may add the elements of tactics, without fear of being too scientific. Let the officers of the permanent corps be furnished with books on all the latest subjects of military art, in order that they may keep up with the times, and in turn impart their knowledge to their volunteer confrieries who are under them for instruction. The establishment of shooting galleries at every station in order that practice might be carried out the whole year round, would have a very beneficial effect.

Finally, let the Government supply gymnastic apparatus, and make the course compulsory for all recruits, as it now is in the Imperial Army. It is there that love and muscle will be developed, thus tending towards the accomplishment of the great aim we all have at heart of making Briton mistress of the land as she now is of the sea.

GUNNER.

September 23rd, 1888.

### Some Facts About the German Army.

(United Service Gazette.)

It may be as well for the Horse Guards authorities and military officers generally to sometimes remember that if it were possible for Germany to call up every man it has power to do by the various methods of recruitment, it would be possible to put into the field an army of 3,200,000 men, made up by 400,000 in the three active classes, 700,000 reserve of recruitment, 500,000 reserve of active army, 600,000 Landwehr, and 1,000,000 Landsturm. The peace effective, however, is only about 401,000, an eight of this number being non-commissioned officers. In time of war the German army is divided into three parts, the first of which is the Feld-Armee, or Campaign Army—744,031 men and 19,391 officers; 242,415 horses, and 2,040 guns; then there is the Beratzungs-Armee, or garrison troops—416,032 men and 11,240 officers, 38,393 horses, and 324 guns; the third division being the depot troops—296,614 men and 4,796 officers, 31,373 horses, and 444 guns. These three armies, or divisions of the entire army, have each all the necessary machinery of armament and service, such as transportation, rations, etc. The order of battle of the army in the field, and the distribution of the Garrison army is already settled in time of peace, and at the very moment of mobilization the commanders and staff officers are appointed. The German Infantry is formed of 161 regiments of three battalions. Each battalion has four companies, numbered from one to twelve. The Infantry company has five officers, twenty non-commissioned officers, 202 soldiers and drummers, and a few needed for various services bring up the aggregate to 244. A regiment's aggregate is 3,189. Besides the 161 regiments named there are twenty regiments of Chasseurs, with a *personnel* of 1,055 each. The Cavalry, which is divided between the Prussian guard and the German army, consists of ninety-three regiments. The latter section has eight regiments of Cuirassiers, twenty-eight of Dragoons, nineteen of Hussars, twenty-two of Uhlans, one of Saxon Artillery, one of Saxon Carabiners, two of heavy Bavarians, and six of light-horse Bavarians. The Prussian guard consists of a regiment of the Corps de Gardes, one of Cuirassiers, two of Dragoons, one of Hussars and three of Uhlans. The entire Cavalry organization is formed into three categories, the heavy cavalry—having ten regiments of Cuirassiers, one of which is the body and one the ordinary guard; cavalry of the line—twenty-five regiments of Uhlans and two of the heavy Bavarians; and light cavalry—twenty-eight regiments of Dragoons, twenty Hussars, and six Bavarian light horse. Every regiment has five squadrons, four for the field and one for depot guard, with a colonel, lieutenant-colonel, and a major, with an extra major for commandant; officers and men included, it numbers 684 men; while a division has 4,763 men, 5,107 horses, eighteen field pieces, and 101 various vehicles. The Cuirassiers carry the straight sabre and the revolver; the Hussars a curved sabre with steel handle, and a carbine; the Uhlans a sabre, a carbine, a revolver, and a lance 10½ feet long, at the top of which flutters a streamer. The artillery, so greatly admired for their dash, is composed of 37 regiments, furnishing 295 mounted batteries (attached to the cavalry) and 46 horse batteries (attached to the infantry). The mounted batteries have six 3½-inch cannon, the others use cannon a trifle smaller. Then there are 116 companies of unmounted artillery. There is, of course, an ambulance corps with physicians, litters, ambulances, nurses, etc.

Germany has nine military schools six of which receive pupils at 10 to 15 years of age, who afterwards finish at either Lichtenfeld, Dresden, or Munich. The studies pursued at all of these three are very severe, and the pupils even after passing through the preliminary course are often sent back on examination to receive further tuition. The War Academy at Berlin is the highest of the military academies; but this is open only to lieutenants and captains who have served three years. Beyond all these institutions, which are military in the strict sense, there are schools for Artillery, marksmanship, riding, gymnastics, medicine and surgery, and veterinary practice. The general staff of officers of the Army is made up of the officers of the different Armies temporarily attached. They form seven divisions—three study at a theatre of war, one occupies itself with the railroads, one with military history, one with geography and statistics, and the seventh with geodesy and topography. This staff of officers has recourse to a library which has been in formation for the last seventy years, and includes 60,000 volumes.

Capt. H. G. Bate, of the Governor-General's Foot Guards, is the happy possessor of a magnificent specimen of horse flesh, which won general admiration at the Central Canada Exhibition, recently held at Ottawa, and took first prizes in the saddle and light hunter classes. "Pat" is six years old, is as gentle as a lamb. He is by thoroughbred "Terror." He stands fifteen and one-half hands high, is of a dark brown colour, with white star on his forehead. He is perfect in his action.

**Militia General Orders (No. 16), of 28th September, 1888.**

**No. 1.—RANK IN MILITIA.**

Charles Frederick Young, formerly Captain in Her Majesty's 50th Regiment, and of No. 1 Co. Prince Albert Mounted Rifles, to have the rank of major in the militia as a special case.

**No. 2.—ACTIVE MILITIA.**

**9th Bn.**—No. 6 Co.—2nd Lieut. Victor Gingras resigns.

**35th Batt.**—No. 1 Co.—To be lieutenant, 2nd Lieut. J. B. McPhee, R.S.I., vice O'Brien promoted.

To be 2nd lieutenant, 2nd lieutenant H. A. Kortright, R. S. I., from No. 2 Co., vice McPhee, promoted.

**38th Batt.**—Promotions in this battalion shall in future be made "according to seniority in the battalion."

To be 2nd lieutenants, prov., 2nd Lieut. H. H. Rowley, from No. 5 Co., 41st Bn., vice M. J. Ince, resigned.

Robert Emerson Wallace, vice J. P. Hemphill, resigned.

**39th Bn.**—No. 2 Co.—To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Pte. Johnson Elisha Barber, vice Carter.

**57th Bn.**—No. 3 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., Arthur Stevenson, vice R. B. Rogers, who resigns.

To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Chas. Scott Shaw, vice E. A. Peck, appointed quarter-master.

No. 4 Co.—To be captain, Lieut. R. M. Dennistoun, V.B., from No. 1 Co., vice R. E. Birdsall, who retires retaining rank.

*Erratum.*—In No. 6 of General Orders (11) 1st June, 1888, the appointment of "2nd lieutenant, provisionally, Albert Edward Dixon," to "No. 3 Co." and "vice Hill, promoted," instead of "Edward A. Peck, appointed quartermaster."

**70th Bn.**—No. 1 Co.—To be captain, Lieut. George Massicotte, M. S., vice Ernest Trudel, who retires retaining rank.

**85th Bn.**—No. 6 Co.—The name of 2nd Lieutenant (provisionally) J. R. Forest (or "Foust," as erroneously published in No. 2 of General Orders (13) 6th July, 1888) is removed from the list of Officers of the Active Militia.

**62nd Bn.**—To be captain, Lieut. J. F. Fraser, V. B., vice H. J. A. Godard, who retires retaining rank.

To be lieutenant, 2nd Lieut. G. M. Cleveland, R.S.I., vice Fraser, promoted.

**66th Bn.**—To be 2nd lieutenant prov., Frederick DeWolf, vice Hole, promoted.

**82nd Bn.**—To be assistant surgeon, H. D. Johnson, M. D., vice Norman, E. McKay, left limits.

**CONFIRMATION OF RANK.**

2nd Lieut. C. E. Williams, R.S.I., No. 2 Co., 33rd Bn.; from 15th September, 1888.

2nd Lieut. K. G. Lech, R.S.I., No. 6 Co., 57th Bn.; from 15th September, 1888.

**No. 3.—CERTIFICATES GRANTED.**

Rank, Name and Corps.	Royal School.	Class.	Course.	Grade.	Percentage of marks obtained		
					Written.	Practical.	Aggregate Percentage.
2nd. Lieut. C. E. Williams, 33rd Batt.....	Inf.	2	Sp	A	.49	.51	.50
2nd. Lieut. K. G. Lech, 57th Batt.....	do	2	Sp	A	.58	.48	.53

**No. 4.—ASSOCIATIONS FOR DRILL IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.**

*Laval Normal School of Quebec, Drill Company.*—To act as captain, J. W. Farrier, vice C. E. Anger left the Institution. To act as lieutenant, Thomas Otis, vice Gedeon Bernier, left the Institution. To act as 2nd lieutenant, Joseph Savard, vice Arthur Fiset, left the Institution.

*L'Institution de Patronage de St. Vincent de Paul Drill Company.*—To act as captain, Amedee Gagnon. To act as lieutenant, Elpage Gagnon. To act as 2nd lieutenant, Albert Legare.

*St. Mary's College 2nd Drill Company, Montreal.*

The formation of this Drill Company is authorized under the provisions of paragraph 453, Regulations and Orders for the Militia of Canada, 1887. To act as captain Edmond Hurtubise. To act as lieutenant, P. Lacoste. To act as 2nd lieutenant, H. LaRocque.

**Gleanings.**

The new French naval budget demands the construction of swift cruisers and torpedo vessels, measures to insure co-operation between the merchant fleet and the navy, and organized coast defences.

The Council of the United Service Institution of India have chosen as the subject for their Gold Medal Essay, 1888-89, the following:—"The Organization of European and Eurasian Subjects in India (including volunteers) not belonging to the Army and Navy." (i.) As auxiliary to the British Forces. (ii.) For the protection of life and property locally, with a view to free as large a portion as possible of the Regular Army for service in the field.

There seems to be some considerable doubt as to the existence of the room where the Duchess of Richmond gave her ball to the English officers before the battle of Waterloo. Although Sir William Fraser believes that he has identified in Brussels the room where the ball was given, the information is distrusted in certain quarters. Of the ladies who were present on that memorable night there still survive three.

A granite memorial stone erected over the grave of Jack Crawford, a Sunderland sailor at the battle of Camperdown in 1793, was lately unveiled in Sunderland parish churchyard. The brave deed thus commemorated was as follows: "The flag of Admiral Duncan had been shot from the halliards, but Crawford, in the heat of the action, climbed aloft and nailed the flag to the topmast."

Admiral Porter, U. S. N., at latest advises from Jamestown, R. I., was a good deal better. The Newport News says: "The admiral has been a sick man, but he is confident he will 'weather the storm.' While realizing that his age is somewhat against him, he points to the fact that he has a good constitution and is anxious that his friends and shipmates will not be unduly alarmed. He is most comfortably located at Conacicut."

A very good thing was said a while since by John Tyler, Jr., son of President Tyler. Since the collapse of the rebellion, during which he was a general in the southern army, he has resided in Washington. With the courtly air and manners of the gentry of the Old Dominion he has a keen sense of humor, which was evinced by his remark that before the war the letters F. F. V. meant First Families of Virginia, but since the war left so many of them impoverished they signify Fight For Victuals. —Salem (Mass.) Gazette.



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**SAULT STE. MARIE CANAL. NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.**

THE WORKS for the construction of the canal above mentioned, advertised to be let on the 23rd of October next, are unavoidably postponed to the following dates:—

Tenders will be received until

**Wednesday, 7th day of November next**

Plans and specifications will be ready for examination at this office and at Sault Ste. Marie on and after

**Wednesday, 24th day of October next.**

By Order,  
A. P. BRADLEY,  
Secretary.

Department of Railways & Canals,  
Ottawa, 27th September, 1888.

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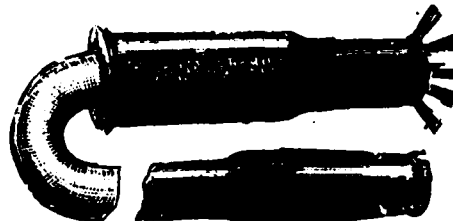
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**Sault Ste. Marie Canal.**

**Notice to Contractors.**

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tenders for the Sault Ste. Marie Canal," will be received at this office until the arrival of the eastern and western mails on TUESDAY, the 23rd day of October, next, for the formation and construction of a Canal on the Canadian side of the river, through the island of St. Mary.

The works will be let in two sections, one of which will embrace the formation of the canal through the island; the construction of locks, &c. The other, the deepening and widening of the channel-way at both ends of the canal; construction of piers, &c.

A map of the locality, together with plans and specifications of the works, can be seen at this office on and after TUESDAY, the 9th day of October, next, where printed forms of tender can also be obtained. A like class of information, relative to the works, can be seen at the office of the Local Officer in the Town of Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

Intending contractors are requested to bear in mind that tenders will not be considered unless made strictly in accordance with the printed forms and be accompanied by a letter stating that the person or persons tendering have carefully examined the locality and the nature of the material found in the trial pits.

In the case of firms, there must be attached the actual signatures of the full name, the nature of the occupation and residence of each member of the same; and further, a bank deposit receipt for the sum of \$30,000 must accompany the tender for the canal and locks; and a bank deposit receipt for the sum of \$7,500 must accompany the tender for the deepening and widening of the channel-way at both ends, piers, &c.

The respective deposit receipts—cheques will not be accepted—must be endorsed over to the Minister of Railways and Canals, and will be forfeited if the party tendering declines entering into contract for the works, at the rates and on the terms stated in the offer submitted.

The deposit receipt thus sent in will be returned to the respective parties whose tenders are not accepted.

This department does not, however, bind itself to accept the lowest or any tenders.

By order,

A. P. BRADLEY,  
Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals,  
Ottawa, 8th August, 1888.



**North-West Mounted Police.**

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4th "	50	15	65 "
5th "	50	20	70 "

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Members of the force are supplied with fixtures, a free kit on joining and periodical uses during the term of service.

Applicants may be engaged at the office of the Comptroller of the Force, Ottawa; at the Immigration office, Winnipeg, Manitoba; or at the Headquarters of the Force, Regina, N.W.T.

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Specifications and drawings can be seen at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, and at the office of the Town Clerk, Goderich, Ont., on and after Wednesday, 5th Sept., and tenders will not be considered unless made on the form supplied and signed with actual signatures of tenderers.

An accepted bank cheque, payable to the order of the Minister of Public Works, equal to five per cent. of amount of tender, must accompany each tender. This cheque will be forfeited if the party declines the contract, or fail to complete the work contracted for, and will be returned in case of non-acceptance of tender.

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

By order

A. GOBEIL,  
Secretary.

Department of Public Works,  
Ottawa, 31st August, 1888.



**Money Orders.**

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

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" 20, " " 40 .....	20c.
" 40, " " 60 .....	30c.
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If not exceeding \$10 .....	10c.
Over \$10, not exceeding \$20 .....	20c.
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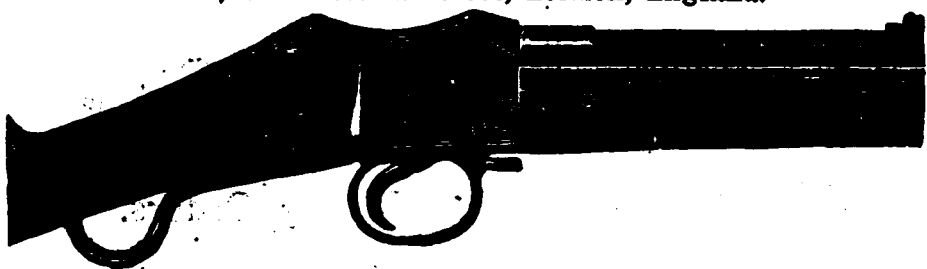
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