THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE, P. O. Box 316, Ottawa, Ont.

CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

The benefit of military exercise.

A bureau of military information.

Proposed new head dress.

The hoodlums.

Praise for the MILITIA GAZETTE.

A MESSENGER PIGEON ASSOCIATION. Its objects explained.

THE CANADIAN MILITARY INSTITUTE.
A circular just issued.

MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.
No. 3, of 21st March, 1890.

REGIMENTAL AND OTHER NEWS.

A budget from the military centres.

THE RIPLE.

A unique match at Montreal.—Miscellaneous Notes.

MISCELLANBOUS.

addition, the officers now abroad as attachees to American Legations and on special duty may be regarded as indirectly connected with the bureau, as the results of their labours are essential to its growth and usefulness. They have furnished information of a highly important character upon all subjects of military interest. Much of this was not hitherto attainable, and could not have been procured by other methods. The list of attachees has just been further increased by the assignment of Lieut. Henry T. Allen, 2nd Cavalry, recently relieved from West Point, to the U. S. Legation at St. Petersburg, and Lieut. S. C. Mills, 12th Infantry, who is now abroad on leave of absence, to the U. S. Legation in Copenhagen. Lieut. Luigi Lomia, 5th Artillery, has also been ordered abroad on a roving mission through Italy and Switzerland for the collection of military data. Lieuts. Allen and Lomia are fully conversant with the languages of the countries they are to visit.

Topics of the Week.

Time and again we have pointed out that our citizen soldiers, who give so much time to the service of a community giving in return very little more substantial than the applause on field days, may find adequate compensation in the physical and mental improvement resulting from the military exercise. This feature, too often lost sight of, is thus well put, editorially, in a recent issue of the Kingston News: "Military drill may be made an important means of maintaining the bodily health at its highest pitch. As an exercise, it is the product of centuries of evolution in which the better features were retained and the worse eliminated until to-day there is no course of physical training better adapted to produce an all-round development of the human machine. It is, therefore, peculiarly suitable to those who have not yet completed their growth, and we are glad to see that so many of our youth have been induced to join the ranks. Military drill fosters the patriotic spirit. Though the chances of the volunteers ever being needed for the ostensible purpose of their organisation—the defence of their country—are very slim, the mere fact of being enrolled for that ostensible purpose under the glorious old flag of England causes them to think what that flag and that country have done in the past for the civilization of mankind. Military exercise inculcates habits of neatness in personal appearance. punctuality and obedience. In company drill the volunteer for the first time, perhaps, learns how important it is for a body of men seeking to accomplish any object to be animated by a common purpose, an observation which will stand him in good stead in after life."

There is in connection with the United States military service a bureau of military information, which for several years existed practically in name only, but has gradually expanded until now it may be said to have become a permanent branch of the Adjutant-General's Office, and a most important feature thereof. There are at present three officers attached to the new bureau, in addition to the small corps of clerks. In

The Imperial military authorities are devoting considerable attention to the question of providing a serviceable head dress to replace the present helmet, worn by all the line regiment but the Fusiliers. A new pattern head-dress to take the place of the present helmet for rifle battalions has been finally approved by the military authorities, and now awaits the final sanction of the Secretary of State. The new cap is built on the same lines as the rifle service cap with the exception that it is a little higher than the latter, and is furnished with a short plume in front, with the badge on the side. It is made of Astrachan for the officers, and of lambswool for the men. The cap is quite soft and pliable, and can be stowed away in a pocket. It has met with the approval of all ranks as being the most useful and practical head-dress introduced of late years into the army. There has always been a great objection to the present helmet, and it is thought that the issue of the new rifle cap may lead to the speedy withdrawal of the former throughout all branches of the service.

The latest proposed extension of the military training system is one advocated by the Toronto Mail, which would form into cadet battalions the "hoodlums" or unkempt urchins of the streets, often mischievous and even vicious only because they have never been taught how to practise innocent recreative pursuits. In a second article on the subject the Mail announces with satisfaction that a practical response is likely to be made to the suggestions previously thrown out, and that with the opening of spring a movement of the kind indicated may be started. "In a work of this sort," says our contemporary, "personal endeavour and enthusiasm are more requisite than money. Funds, of course, will be wanted, but the opening that exists is chiefly for some of our young men of brains and ability, who would find in the carrying to a successful issue of an undertaking of this kind a nobler amusement than the following out of mere personal gratifications." For example, the Mail cites the Royal Naval Artillery Volunteers, enrolled from the street youths of Liverpool through the enterprise of a few influential business men, and now zealously proceeding with their training.

.We have lately printed a number of kind messages received from subscribers in Canada and abroad, and are happy to add this tribute from the editor of a bright and seemingly well appreciated contemporary, the Guardsman, of Chicago: "Our Canadian brothers in arms are well represented by the publication known as the CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE, published at Ottawa, Ont., every Thursday. The Guardsman welcomes it to the exchange table gladly, and notes with pleasure its prosperity and neat appearance."

A Messenger Pigeon Association.

The Commandant of the Royal Military College, Kingston, is very active in promoting the proposed Dominion Messenger Pigeon Association, and has distributed a pamphlet of interesting facts about messenger or homing pigeons and how it is proposed to utilise such birds for purposes of communication in Canada. Accompanying the pamphlet, there is an outline map of the maritime provinces and of the southern portions of Quebec and Ontario, showing the positions of the proposed stations, enumerated in a former issue. The objects of the association, and the useful possibilities of its work, are thus set out in the pamphlet issaued:

"The practical object in view is to supplement the facilities for the rapid transmission of messages, afforded by telegraph lines: in peace time to act as feeders to those lines; in war time to act as feeders or as substitutes. In war time the occasions are innumerable when serious derangements of plans, loss and discomfiture may be involved by the absence of previously organized provision for the rapid transmission of news. The advantage in favour of the side possessing such facilities over an opponent without them is enormous. To disarrange an enemy's means of communicating orders and of transmitting and receiving information is a most certain method to cause him delays, and it may be confusion. That the destruction of an opponent's telegraph lines should be a first object in—if not a preliminary to attack—and the destruction of one's own lines a preliminary to retreat before the enemy—needs no elucidation. But the lines having been destroyed, a substitute not controllable by the enemy is necessary. War vessels in defending a coast are frequently without the means to transmit vital intelligence to the mainland.

"In peace—at places remote from telegraph stations—election returns—the wants of explorers and of sporting parties—light housesvessels leaving the coast - camp and military manœuvres - domestic needs—interrupted electric communication—pigeon flying matches—and numerous other circumstances afford countless useful and amusing occasions for employing messenger pigeons either as feeders to telegraph lines, or as substitutes for these.

"That messenger pigeons can easily fly 400 miles a day, —that single birds have frequently been entrusted with the carriage of 50,000 despatches at a time,—and that the birds are themselves easily portable to any place where there services are needed—should suffice to secure very general support for a Dominion Messenger Pigeon Association."

The pamphlet further explains how the requisite stock of birds may

be secured and trained.

The Canadian Military Institute.

The following circular has been forwarded to officers present and past, in all parts of Canada, by the Secretary of the above named Institute, Mr. L. Homfray Irving:--

"Toronto, 24th March. 1890. "DEAR SIR,—I am instructed to inform you that an Association under the above title has been organized in Toronto for the promotion of Military Art, Science, and Literature, and for social purposes. The membership is limited to those who have served, or are serving, as officers in Her Majesty's Regular Army, or Auxiliary forces, or the Militia of Canada. The subscription per annum is \$5.00 for residents (those living within ten miles of Toronto), and \$2.50 for non-resident members. Rooms have been rented (Nos. 94 and 96 King St. West) and are now being comfortably furnhished; it is expected that they will be ready for occupation on the 1st of April next.

"It is confidently anticipated that the Institute, by furnishing information upon Military subjects, in the form of Lectures, a Library, Reading Room, etc., and providing as well many of the conveniences of a Club, will be the means of materially increasing the efficiency of the

Militia force of Canada.

"The Committee look for a liberal support from those who now are, or have been, connected as Officers with any of the military bodies of the Empire, and would ask for an early application for membership, which may be made to the Secretary of any of the Committee."

Militia General Orders (No. 3) of 21st March, 1890.

No. 1.—Regulations and Orders for the Militia, 1887.

Brevet Rank.—The following is added as sub-section 5 to paragraph 90: "(5) Brevet rank does not entitle officers holding it, whilst serving in their corps, to pay or allowances in excess of that authorized by their regimental rank."

Good Conduct Badges.—Paragraph 281 is amended by striking out the words "non-commissioned officers and" in the second line, and inserting after the word men

in the same line, "under the rank of Corporal or Bombardier."

No. 2.—Annual Report on the Militia, 1889.

Inspections.—By an inadvertence, mention of the presence at the Queen's Birthday review at Montreal of "B" Company, Infantry School Corps, was omitted in the yearly Report of the Major General Commanding the Militia. The Major General regrets this, the more so as the movements and physical drill of this Company met with his warmest approbation, while their steadiness and appearance were such as to reflect the highest credit on both officers and men.

No. 3.—Artillery Store Ledgers.

Adverting to No. 6 of General Orders (2), 13th January, 1888, it is to be understood that the inspections therein referred to include the half yearly inspections by the District Staff, at which the state and condition of all Artillery Stores, Equipment, Harness, etc., is to be verified by comparison with the entries in the Store Ledger.

No. 4.—Permanent Corps.

Passes.—Bound blank forms of Permanent Pass for non-commissioned officers and men, up to midnight (12 o'clock), can be obtained on repayment by requisition in the usual manner. The charge for each copy will be five cents.

No. 5.—ACTIVE MILITIA.

Montreal Brig. Gar. Art.—To be 2nd Lieutenant, prov., Robert Hudson Reid, vice T. A. Crathern, promoted.

3rd Bn.—2nd Lieut. Alexander Shaw resigns.

7th Bn.—To be Major, prov., Thomas Beattie, R. S. I. (2nd), formerly Captain in this Battalion.

The following officers resign: Capt. J. W. Cowan, Lieut. C. Elliott, 2nd Lieuts. R. A. Smith and D. C. C. Macdonald.

9th Bn.—Paymaster and Honorary Major P. G. Dugal retires retaining his honorary rank.

14th Bn.—To be Lieutenant, 2nd Lieut. W. J. A. White, R. S. I., vice D. A. Givens, left limits.

22nd Bn.-No. 2 Co.-To be Lieutenant, prov., Sergeant J. G. Ross, vice J. W. Abernethy, who resigns.

24th Bn.—No. 4 Co.—To be Captain, Lieut. T. K. Mackeand, vice T. R. Coogan, appointed Adjutant.

To be Adjutant, Capt. T. R. Coogan (formerly H. M. Army), from No. 4 Co., vice J. B. Rankin, promoted.

30th Bn.-No. 7 Co.-2nd Lieut. W. Conboy resigns.

35th Bn.-No. 1 Co.--To be 2nd Lieutenant, prov., Private Bertram Hofford Ardagh, vice H. A. Kortright, promoted.

42nd Bn.—No. 2 Co.—To be 2nd Lieutenant, prov., Sergeant Charles W. F. Gorrell, vice J. A. Reynolds, left limits.

90th Bn. - To be Lieutenant, 2nd Lieut. W. F. Godson, R. S. M. I., vice Thomas Smith, deceased.

To be 2nd Lieutenants, prov., Quartermaster Sergeant Duncan Daniel Stewart, vice J. McLaren, promoted: Colour Sergeant Elmes John Steele, vice W.F. Godson, promoted.

To be Paymaster, William Mann Fisher, vice A. H. Whitcher, who reverts to the Retired List of Captains.

orst Bn.—The formation of two Companies is authorized under the provisions of No. 4 of General Orders (2), 4th January, 1889.
No. 5 Co., Rockwood.—To be Captain, prov., Henry Field.

To be Lieutenant, prov., John McOuatt.

To be 2nd Lieutenant, prov., William White. No. 6 Co.—To be Captain, prov., Thomas Routledge.

To be 2nd Lieutenant, prov., Edward A. C. Hosmer.

No. 6.—RESERVE MILITIA.

Regimental Division of Missisquoi, Q.-To be Lieutenant-Colonel, Major William Chilton, vice D. T. R. Nye, deceased.

No. 7.—Associations for Drill in Educational Institutions.

The formation of the following Drill Companies is authorized under the provisions of paragraph 453, Regulations and Orders for the Militia, 1887.

College Joliette 2nd Drill Company.—To act as Captain, Albert Dansereau. To act as Lieutenant, Leopold C. Meunier.

To act as 2nd Lieutenant, Romulus Desilets.

College St. Remi Drill Company.—To act as Captain, Wilfrid Boulerice. To act as Lieutenant, Chéri F. Vile.

To act as 2nd Lieutenant, Charles Boileau.

Great artistic excellence has been reached in Europe in the manufacture of tin soldiers. A German military officer has found it possible to represent military operations on a large scale by their means. He has collected 35,000 tin soldiers, belonging to every branch of the service and completely equipped, and has displayed them on a platform in the Kempton Barracks, to illustrate a siege conducted in accordance with the best teaching of modern tactics. The scenery and other appurtenances have all been supplied by toys in common use, and the picture is said to be marvellously perfect. A French garrison, of course, occupies the fortress, and naturally is compelled to surrender.

Regimental and other News.

This is from the London Free Press: "The first inspection of the Seventh Battalion since re-organization will be made by Col. Smith, D.A.G., shortly, and with that will end the present annual drill. It is the intention of Col. Tracy, however, to set one night in the week apart for battalion drill and another for physical training until the annual drill of 1890 commences in June. The Morris shooting tubes are being arranged, and the men will be encouraged as much as possible in marksmanship. Already the rivalry on this point between the companies is beginning to crop up, and several of the companies dispute the claim of No. 2 to the superiority. No feature in the physical development of the men is to be overlooked."

The annual meeting of the 27th Battalion officers was held on the 25th March, in the Bellchamber house, Sarnia, Ont. Among the officers present were: Col. Fisher, Majors Ellis and Macvicar, Captains O'Neil, Kittermaster, Dolbear and Pollock, Quartermaster Towers, Lieutenants Mackenzie, Buchner, Johnston and Tretheway. Arrangements for the coming camp this season were discussed. A report from the band committee was also read, band and mess committees were appointed, and it was decided to run the mess in the interests of the regimental fund while in camp. A vote of thanks was tendered to those officers who were instrumental in securing a grant of 25 cents per day from the County Council for every non-commissioned officer and man while in camp.

Kingston.

On Friday evening, 28th March, the members of "F" company, 14th battalion, assembled at the drill shed to commence annual drill. It was also the last occasion Captain James Murray would have of meeting with his company prior to removal to Montreal. Capt. Murray has been in command of "F" company for six years, and was held by the members in high esteem. They would not part with him without a cordial "send-off." Lieutenant White, now in command of the company, put them through exercises. The company was called to attention. Mr. E. Offord read an address, and John Sutherland presented an elegant costly diamond ring. The address read:

To Capt. James Murray, "F" Company:

"We, the non-commissioned officers and men of "F" Company, 14th batt., P. W. O. R., while regretting that your business necessitates your permanent removal from this city, and compels you to resign the command of our company, wish you every success in your field of work. We desire to show our appreciation of your successful endeavours to make our company a good one and a credit to the battalion to which we belong, and we now ask you to accept this ring, hoping it will at times remind you of the respect and esteem in which you are held by the company, and of the happy relations that have always existed between us in the past. Signed on behalf of the company, J. H. SUTHERLAND, E. B. OFFORD."

CAPT. MURRAY'S REPLY.

He said: "I came up to-night to attend, for probably the last time, a muster of No. 6, little thinking that I should be the recipient of this handsome testimonial of your good wishes for my future welfare. I have no words to fittingly express my appreciation of this honour, but I assure you that for the remainder of my life I shall carefully treasure this beautiful ring, wearing it with pride and pleasure as a token of the happy relations existing on this, the last, occasion on which I shall appear in the capacity of your commanding officer. Yes, I lay aside the reins of authority to-night, and as I look around upon your familiar and triendly faces I assure you I am sorry to leave you. Doubtless you have considered me at times unnecessarily strict and exacting, and perhaps I was, though I believe it was for your good and the company's advancement. I bestowed praise but sparingly, although many a time I have been proud of you and of the spirit and efficiency you have exhibited. I thank you all, non-commissioned officers and men, for the ready, willing and intelligent assistance you have at all time given me. The enviable position this company holds in the regiment (a flourishing company fund and full ranks of splendid material) is due to yourselves and the esprit de corps that animates you-not to me. An officer is powerless without the hearty co-operation of the non-commissioned officers and "rank and file." Before concluding, let me add that I am pleased to be succeeded by my worthy and able lieutenant. Mr. White, like myself, has risen from your ranks, and has your interests deeply at heart. I am sure, if you continue to render him the same hearty assistance you have accorded me, I can look forward with confidence and pride to the steady advancement and prosperity of old No. 6. As I say good-bye I tender you, one and all, my best wishes for your welfare and happiness. I shall always be glad of your success individually."

The company dispersed after three hearty cheers were given for Capt. Murray.

Montreal

After examination, the following promotions in the 6th Fusiliers have been notified in Battalion orders: To be corporals, Privates Graham, "A" Company; Chalk, "A" Company; Coyle, "B" Company; Taylor, "C" Company, and Hutton, "F" Company.

Captain Hood, of the Royal Scots, is in communication with the secretary of the National Rifle Association of the United States, and is in hopes that arrangements will be made to send a team of Canadian militiamen to Creedmoor this summer to compete with Uncle Sam's National Guardsmen. Captain Hood is confident that a Canadian team would hold its own at Creedmoor.

The Montreal Field Battery has begun work on the new artillery

drill as laid down in the new manual of the Royal Artillery.

Montreal militiamen are watching with considerable interest the developments in connection with the trouble between the ex-officers of the First Regiment of the Connecticut National Guard, which visited Montreal last autumn, and the Governor of the State. The Governor recently issued an order to the companies of the regiment to meet and elect new officers in place of those he discharged. The companies met but re-elected their old officers, and it is now feared that the fine regiment will be disbanded. Brigadier-General Graham, who accompanied the First to Montreal, has been asked to resign for having written on the application of Colonel Cone and his officers for resignation the words, approved with regret." The officers of the regiment have referred the matter to a legal authority with the result that they have received an opinion that the Governor exceeded his power in discharging the officers without summoning a court-martial as he would certainly have had to do if he had been under Queen's Regulations. The Connecticut and Ameri can militia papers generally support Colonel Cone and his officers.

The Prince of Wales Rifles have made a good start at their annual drill. Colonel Butler has announced to the men that he hodes to have

the annual inspection on the 24th of May.

Sherbrooke.

Lieutenant-Colonel Felton, of the 53rd Battalion, was banquetted by the officers at the Magog House, Sherbrooke, last Thursday evening, 27th ult., on the occasion of his retirement from the command. Between thirty and forty present and ex-officers sat down to a most excellent dinner prepared by the new landlords of the Magog, Messrs Clark and Ingram, to which full justice was done. Major Morehouse occupied the chair, having on his right the guest of the evening, Gen. White, U. S. Consul, and Lieutenant-Colonel Hon. H'y Aylmer; on his left Judge Brooks, Dr. E. D. Worthington, Mayor Chicoyne and Colonel G. Luke, while along the other table were seated Messrs. C. E. Perry, Major Stevens, Captain Kerr, Captain Morkill, Captain Fales, Quartermaster Odell and the officers of the 53rd Battalion. Captain Fraser read regrets from Lieutenant-Colonels Houghton, Pope, Bowen, Taylor, Major Wood, Major Leckie, Rev. Mr. Thorneloe, and Hon. Mr. Robertson.

The usual loyal toasts were proposed and received with honours. "The President of the United States" was replied to in an eloquent speech by Gen. White, and the "Army, Navy and Volunteers," proposed by Mr. C. E. Perry, elicited a reply from Lieutenant-Colonel Aylmer of the Richmond Field Battery. Captain Worthington proposed the "Judicial and Civil Authorities," to which Judge Brooks and Mayor Chicoyne ably responded. The chairman proposed "Our Guest," and presented, on behalf of the officers, a very nice photograph group of the regimental officers taken by Presby and beautifully framed. Lieutenant-Colonel Felton replied in feeling terms, detailing his connection with the regiment, thanking them heartily for the flattering demonstration and the beautiful picture, saying he should ever continue to feel an interest in the old corps and wish them increased efficiency. Surgeon Worthington gave our "Sister Corps" in a neat speech and Captain Morkill, Lieutenant-Colonel Aylmer and Surgeon Brown of the 54th replied in fitting terms. Paymaster H. A. Odell proposed "The Press" in eloquent terms and was replied to briefly by Mayor Chicoyne of the Pioner and the chairman for the Examiner. Captain Fraser proposed "The Retired Officers," coupling the names of Surgeon-Major Worthington, Major Stevens and Captain Grindrod, each of whom replied in eloquent "The Ladies," proposed by Captain E. W. Farwell and responded to by Mr. Lloyd, both in appropriate words, and the singing of the national anthem, brought to a close one of the most successful and pleasing dinners had in the city.

Hamilton.

The general meeting of F Company (old No. 6) was held at the Dominion hotel last week, for the purpose of passing accounts, electing officers, and striking committees for the year.

Col.-Sergt. Grant read the treasurer's report, which showed the finances of the company to be in a flourishing condition notwithstanding the extraordinarily heavy expenses incurred in the fitting up of the armoury last fall, which cost over \$90, and F Company can congratulate themselves that they have the best appointed armoury at the drill hall.

Lieut. Tidswell, the popular officer in command of the company, occupied the chair; Lance Corp. J. E. Henderson acted as secretary. The following officers were elected and committees appointed:-

President, Lieut. W. O. Tidswell.

Vice-President, 2nd Lieut. J. D. Laidlaw.

Treasurer, Col.-Sergt. Grant. Secretary, Sergt. K. Bethune.

Auditors, Sergt. Bethune and Pte. H. H. Champ, re-elected.

Recruiting Committee-Sergt. Healy, chairman; Corp. Richmond, Ptes. Bruce, Bowman, Hinch, W. S. Champ, W. R. Turnbull, Overholt, Mitchell, Molyneaux, M. Young.

Armoury Committee—Corp. Richmond, chairman; Ptes. Rastrick

and Slater.

Committee on Shooting-Pte. Hampson, chairman; Sergt. Bethune, Corp. Richmond, Ptes. Wishart, Stiff, Slater.

Finance Committee—Col.-Sergt. Grant, chairman; Corp. H. E.

Bull, Ptes. J. G. Gould, H. H. Champ, J. D. Turnbull.

Entertainment Committee-Lieut. Laidlaw, Sergt. Bethune, Corp. Richmond and Bull, Ptes. R. S. Bull, J D. Turnbull, H. H. Champ, Rastrick, W. R. Turnbull and Slater.

After all the business was completed refreshments were brought on, and the members enjoyed themselves for a couple of hours with recitations, songs and speeches. Old No. 6 occupies a warm place in the hearts of a large number of our citizens who have been through its ranks, as also many of the officers of the battalion, several of whom are down in the old roll books as privates, including both the present officers, Lieuts. Tidswell and Laidlaw. Old No. 6 used to be called the recruiting ground for officers. With the careful and painstaking officers now in command F Company will give the other companies a close race in the competition for first place this year.

Both E and B Companies have put in their Morris tube practice. This part of the drill is becoming very popular, and is bringing the companies out in large numbers. Captain Adam was present, and gave personal attention to the instruction. The scoring of E Company was

remarkably good.

Toronto.

Sergt. Archie McKenzie, of F Co., Q.O.R., left this week for New Westminster, B.C. The best wishes of the Mess for success follows Archie to his new home in the far west.

THE GRENADIERS.

All the companies have decided to fund their pay for the better equipment and training of the men.

The officers are busy arranging their annual entertainment, which will consist of a short operatic performance followed by grand tableaux; and for the closing part a grand camp scene and chorus by the men.

The sergeants' mess held their final smoking concert and card party on Thursday evening last. A pleasant evening was spent over the cards, coffee and cigars.

The regiment will parade every Thursday evening in drill order

The non. coms. class has been discontinued till the end of May. Staff-Sergt. Dent has been appointed musketry instructor, vice Staff-Sergt. T. Mitchell, who takes another position.

A greater number of recruits have been sworn in than fo several years.

THE BATTLEFORD COLUMN CELEBRATE.

Friday evening, the 28th March, being the fith anniversary of the calling out of the militia in consequence of disturbances in the North-West Territories, a number of officers and men who composed the column under Colonel Otter, which marched to the relief of Battleford, decided that nothing would be more appropriate than a dinner to celebrate the event. A committee composed of Col. A. A. Miller, (chairman), Capts. Macdonald and McGee, Messrs. George and Lee, Staff Sgts. Harp, Swift, Colour-Sgts. World, McKee and Cooper, Sgts. McHenery, Robertson, Laidlaw and Sanson (secretary), were appointed, and they more than successfully carried out their share. The dinner was held at Webb's, where about 200 sat down, the majority of course being members of the Queen's Own. Col. Otter, who commanded the column occupied the chair, and by him sat Cols. Grasett, Hamilton, Miller, Major Sankey, Mr. Warring Kennedy, Mr. E. E. Sheppard, Capts. Macdonald, McGee, Brock, Mutton, Drs. Strange and Lesslie. Letters of regret were received from General Sir F. Middleton, Col. G. T. Denison, Col. F. C. Denison, C. M. G., Major A. H. Todd, of the Guards Sharphooters, and Rev. T. E. Lloyd, Hon. Chaplain to the Queen's Own, who hoped that the dinner would become an annual affair.

Col. Otter in proposing the toast of the Queen, issued a brigade order to the effect that short speeches and long between drinks would be the order of the evening. The Army, Navy and Auxiliary forces was proposed by the chairman, coupled with the names of Col. Grasett, formerly of H. M. 100th Regiment, and Col. A. A. Miller, erstwhile a midshipmite of the now defunct Canadian Navy. Col. Grasett in reply referred to the glorious achievements performed by the British Army, that had founded and maintained the Empire of which Canada was a part. The Imperial Government were now spending £60,000,000 to £70,-000,000 on their navy, and he thought that more money should be spent on the Canadian forces for equipment and drill purposes—that this was required to make the force what it ought to be. Col. Miller was greeted with such enthusiasm on rising to respond, as to indicate that he is still an unforgotten commander. He spoke of his services in the Navy when the old Naval Brigade had to redeck the "Rescue," etc., and of the warm personal experiences, to the happy days he spent in the Queen's Own, from the time he was looking round for some corps to join after the disbanding of the "blue jackets."

Col. Hamilton delivering a glowing speech on the "Old Brigade," in which he referred to the events of five years ago, when the difficulty was not to choose those who ought to go, but those who should remain at home. He traced the Queen's Own from the start at the drill shed to their return thereto, and concluded by paying a tribute to those who now "sleep the sleep that knows no waking." He hoped that Canada would never forget those who had shed their blood in its defence.

Col. Otter, who was also enthusiastically received, considered that a difficult task had fallen to his lot when he was called upon to respond to the toast of the "Old Brigade." In referring to those who came from a distance to be present at the reunion he specially mentioned Rev. E. C. Acheson, of New York. He compared the march to Battleford with other famous marches. Sherman, with a force of 60,000 men, had marched 250 miles through Georgia at the rate of nine miles a day. During the Franco-Prussian war the 5th Army corps had marched from the Rhine to Paris, a distance of 500 miles, at the rate of ten miles a day. General Roberts had marched from Cabul to Candahar at the rate of fourteen miles a day. The most celebrated march was that of Napoleon, with 150,000 men, from Boulogne to the Rhine at the rate of sixteen miles a day; the army marched by divisions on separate The rate of marching with loaded waggons was about two miles and a half an hour. The Battleford column numbered about 700 men and 200 waggons. They left the banks of the Saskatchewan at one o'clock, April 18th, 1885, to march on to Battleford to rescue about 600 people supposed to be at the mercy of the Metis and Indians; water was carried for 60 or 70 miles; creeks had to be crossed and bridges built. The march of 180 miles over open prairie was accomplished in five days and a half, or at the rate of thirty-two miles a day. (Applause.) Circumstances, no doubt, had much to do with the rapidity with which they are accomplished, but he still thought that the Battleford column never received proper credit for their glorious march. (Cheers.)

The toast to the "Fallen Comrades" was drunk in silence. Those who had fallen were Corporals Sleigh and Lowry, and Trumpeter Burke, of the North-West Mounted Police; Privates Osgood and Rogers, of the Guards Sharpshooters; Pte. Dobbs, Battleford Rifles; Teamster Winder, Transport Corps; and Bugler Fowkes, "C" Co.,

"Imperial Federation" was proposed by Staff Sgt. Walker and res-

ponded to by Mr. E. E. Sheppard.

Lieut.-Col. Miller in proposing the toast of the Mayor and Corporation said that the city at the time of the disturbance had furnished the men with clothing and other comforts. He coupled with the toast the name of ex-Mayor Manning as a man who had always been a friend of the volunteers. Mr. Manning expressed his regret at the absence of Mayor Clarke on account of illness. The corporation had on the occasion which they were recalling felt keenly the position which the soldiers occupied in setting out to quell the disturbance. To his hearers was largely due the safety in which Canada rested at the present time.

About one o'clock in the morning Captain Macdonald arose, and in a few cordial words called on Mr. Warring Kennedy to respond on behalf of the guests. Mr. Kennedy was in the best of form and made a capital speech, the sentiments of which were heartily appreciated by all who heard him. The usual toasts to the Press and the Ladies were proposed and responded to according to the spirit of the hour. During the proceedings, Surgeon Lesslie, Pte. Ed. Lye, Sergt. Creighton, Mr. A. Boyde, Mr. F. Eddis, Capt. Mutton, Sergt. Pearson, and Pte. J. M. Wright sang appropriate selections, including "Pork and Beans," "The Rose of Allendale," etc.

· QUEEN'S OWN SMOKING CONCERT.

The final and by long odds the most successful smoking concert of the season was tendered by the Sergeants' Mess, Queen's Own Rifles.

to their friends on Monday evening, the 24th ult., at their Mess Rooms, with Acting Sergt.-Major McKell in the chair. About 250 took advantage of the invitation extended by the Mess, amongst whom were included members of some of the sister corps of the city. Among the flumber present I noticed Commander Law, R.N., Col. Hamilton, Capts. McGee, Bennett, Greene and Quarter-Master Heakes, Lieuts. Lee, Knifton, Wyatt, Crean, Sergt.-Major Cox and Quarter-Master Sergt. Dale of the Royal Grenadiers, Colour-Sergt. Gallaway, Sergt. Butcher and Corp. Craig from C Co., I.S.C. An overture entitled "The Gondolier," by Prof. Bonheur (piano) and Mr. Camile Napoletano (violin) opened the concert, which was followed by a song entitled "Good Company," rendered with splendid effect by Mr. E. Lye. This same gentleman, in company with Mr. A. Davis, later on in the evening gave the "Old Brigade" in such a manner as to compel the audience to insist on an encore, in response to which "Larboard Watch" was given. Mr. W. E. Ramsay, Toronto's old time favourite, gave with good effect, "I was in it," and again was the rule of the Chairman, who warned the audience that no encores would be given, broken by the enthused audience, who were only stilled by a splendid rendering of "Angels without wings," a very taking satire on the ladies. The following artists also earned from the audience unstinted praise for the pieces named:—Mr. C. Napoletano, violin solo, "Selection from Il Trovatore"; Mr. O'Donnell, piccolo solo; Mr. A. E. Dent, song, "Freedom and Right"; Mr. Lister, song, "Sleep well Sweet Angels"; Mr. H. Barker, "Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep"; and encore of "She may lick McCarthy, but she can't lick me"; Sergt. G. Creighton, song, "Powder Monkey," and Mr. Cockin rendered with splendid effect "The Death of Burnaby"; Colour-Sergt. G E. Cooper gave a bone solo, and in response to an enthusiastic encore, the popular Colour-Sergt. gave the solo with gesture alone; Mr. Ab. Hurst contributed a pleasing exhibition of club swinging, accompanied on the piano by Prof. Bonheur; Messrs. Stemner Bros. and Glenfield gave two rattling exhibitions of the "manly art," and the approval expressed as each point was made gave evidence that the love of this British art in its purity predominates amongst such an audience as witnessed these

The last and by far the most successful feature of the entertainment was the performance entitled "Humour on the Horizontal Bar," by Messrs. Fred. and Ab. Hurst, Alf. Davidson and C. Morgan. Messrs. Ab. Hurst and Morgan ably sustained their reputation as clean, neat gymnasts, whilst Messrs. Fred. Hurst and Davidson as clowns carried off the laurels of the evening. Round after round of laughter was evoked from the audience at the comical efforts of the clowns to convince them that in no way were they inferior to the gymnasts who preceded them in all their motions.

The sword feats of Mr. A. Davidson, of cutting the paper and also the finger from the hand of Mr. Hurst "brought down the house," the applause for which was only surpassed by that called for by the burlesque of a prize fight, where the sluggery was terrific at about four paces. This quartette, with only a few hours' notice, acquitted themselves most creditably and have very kindly consented to repeat their farce at the entertainment in aid of the Band fund, to be given in the Grand Opera House on the 12th May. Col. Hamilton made a few remarks and complimented the Mess very highly for the grand success of their entertainment, and regretted exceedingly that this was to be the last of the series. He spoke of the great eagerness with which those present would look forward to the opening one of next season's series, and announced the probable opening of the season's drill as the 2nd April. The Colonel concluded by moving a hearty vote of thanks to the committee and the performers of the evening. Acting Sgt. Major McKell on their behalf replied in a few short words, in which he said the committee had spared no pains in making the concert enjoyable to all and from the result he felt sure that the object in view had been arrived at. The National Anthem brought the concert to a close, and afterwards a couple of hours were spent partaking of all the amusement the Mess afforded. committee was composed of the following members: Col. Sgt. G. E. Cooper, Pioneer Sgt. Harp, Sgts. N. B. Sanson, J. O. Thorn and J. G. Langton.

"Breech Block."

Belleville.

The annual business meeting of the officers of the 15th Battalion was held on Monday evg. 31st ult.

The 49th Hastings Rifles are going to turn out in camp this year wearing white helmets; the old green ones are to be discarded. The county council voted the sum of \$300 to aid in purchasing the headware.

After a lingcring illness of two years' duration, of consumption, E. R. Reeves, eldest and only surviving son of Jos. P. Reeves, died at his father's residence on Tuesday afternoon March 25th. Deceased was for many years an active member of the 49th Hastings Rifles, and took part in the second expedition to Fort Garry (now Winnipeg), during the

first Riel insurrection in the North-West. In later years he was connected with the 15th Battalion. His father is a veteran of the rebellion of '37-38. He was in the 41st year of his age and leaves a widow and little son. Frank, genial, and generous in disposition he was esteemed by all who knew him, and his death has cast a gloom over the sadly afflicted home, in which he makes the eighth member to die of that dread destroyer. His funeral took place on Thursday afternoon the 27th ult.

There are very very few men in Canada still living who have served over 50 years in the Militia, and among that very few we have here in Belleville one who has not only served 50 years, but is now in his 53rd year as a Canadian Militiaman, I refer to the veteran and venerable Sergt.-Major of the 49th Battalion Hastings Rifles, Wm. Blaind. entered the Militia in 1837 and has ever since remained in it. For about 16 years he has been his regiment's efficient Sergt.-Major. He has the honour of wearing a long service (silver) medal granted to him by the Canadian Government, some thirteen years ago; right well has he earned it and long may he live to wear it. Although getting on in years, he is still smart and active and retains all his old time enthusiasm on matters military, and no doubt is anxiously looking forward to the time when his Battalion goes into camp this year and anticipating a pleasant and profitable time while there. These old veterans in the Militia service must have had many disadvantages to contend with and obstacles to encounter in the earlier days of our country's history, and when our Militia was only in its infancy, and no doubt have witnessed many changes in the regulations and drill of the same. And we, the younger members of Canada's citizen soldiery should respect, revere, and feel proud of such men, who, by their patriotism and military ardour have set before us such good examples, and to us their presence in the Militia should be an ever present inspiration.

The following is from the *Intelligencer*, of March 12th:—" A recent despatch from Hayti announces the appointment to the rank of Adjt.-General of the Haytian Army of Capt. Gadsby, formerly of the Canadian Militia. Wm. John Cecil Gadsby joined the 15th Battalion, Belleville, Ont., early in the year 1885, and underwent a course of instruction at the Royal School of Infantry, St. Johns. At the termination of the course he moved to Montreal, and was for a year or so attached to the 6th Fusiliers, to which regiment he was anxious to receive a transfer. His removal to Boston early in 1886 was the last heard of him until the news referred to was received from Hayti. The new Adjt. General took part in the recent bloody revolution in Hayti as aide-de-camp on Legitime's staff. When that leader was defeated he appears to have been at once taken into the confidence of the victorious Hypolite. Gadsby is an Englishman, about 25 years of age when in Montreal, and was considered more as an enthusiastic soldier than a bright one. He belongs to a good family in England, from whom he received regular remittances "ARGYLE." while residing here."

How to Fight a Battle.

True courage and true wisdom consist alone in calculating danger in its utmost extent, in foreseeing and preparing for the worst that may happen. —Piasley.

A battle ought never to be fought while there is good reason to believe that delay will render the chances still greater in one's favour; and a battle ought to be fought as soon as practicable when there is good reason to believe that time, with the advantages and disadvantages it is bringing, is on the whole augmenting the enemy's chances, and that it will continue to do so. — Yates.

A battle, the most costly and decisive drama in the world, lasts but a few hours; its various phenomena, therefore, succeed each other with incalculable rapidity. The combinations which influence it must be characterized by a prompt decision and sudden inspiration.—Lendy.

The stroke of an army in battle, when its grand attack has developed itself, and the decisive moment sounds, should have an analogy with the stroke of a mighty wave, which having struck the opposing stranded ship in pieces, seems as yet not contented with its victory, but still rolls on to overwhelm and surge around the fragments.— Yates.

There is in all battles a moment when every weapon, every man, every combination of force that can be brought to bear is to be brought into full and rapid action, in order to obtain and insure the victory.

— Yates.

There are some battles which claim our attention independently of the moral worth of the combatants, on account of their enduring importance, and by reason of the practical influence on our social and political condition, which we can trace up to the results of these engagements. They have for us an abiding and actual interest, both while we investigate the chain of causes and effects by which they have helped to make us what we are, and also while we speculate on what we probably should have been, if any one of those battles had come to a different termination.—Crosesy.

The Rifle.

We invite attention to the advertisement of the Canadian Military Rifle League, in another place in this issue, in which it will be noted that entries for the League competitions close on the 30th April. It is highly desirable, however, that intending competitors should not put off their entries until the last moment, and thereby seriously hamper the operations of those gentlemen who have been kind enough to undertake the management of the League affairs. The rifle clubs should also take early steps to put their ranges in order, so that team practice may be had before the first League competition.

A MATCH AT MONTREAL.

The unique match written of in a former issue took place at the Athletic Club House grounds, Cote des Neiges, on Saturday last, 29th A team of five men of the Vics met five of the Athletics, and fired two scores of five shots each—one kneeling with the Snider, and the other standing with Marlin or Winchester rifles. The Vics were ahead in each instance, and in the aggregate had 35 points to the good. The distance was one hundred yards; the target was that used for D.C.R.A. revolver competitions. The day was unpleasant for shooting, heavy wet snow falling. These were the scores, after the one sighting shot per man allowed in each competition:—

	Sn	ider	rs.

Corp. R. Binmore Lieut. E. Desbarats Lieut, G. W. F. Carter Pte. R. Kough Lance-Corp. D. M. McCrae Totals	4 4 5 5 5—23 2 5 5 5 5—22 4 5 5 3 4—21 3 3 3 4 4—17 3 2 4 4 2—15	farlin and Winchester 44's. 2 3 3 5 3—16 0 2 3 2 3—10 3 2 2 5 4—16 3 2 4 4 4—17 2 2 4 4 4—16 75
ATI	HLETICS.	
Marlin (and Winchester 44	's. Sniders.
Jas. Paton	3 4 4 2—16	4 4 2 4 4—18
T. E. Hodgson	4 4 2 2 416	2 4 2 2 4—14
W. T. McLaurin	3 3 2 4 3—15	2 2 3 4 3—14
J. H. Hutchison	2 2 3 2 3—12	3 2 4 4 4—17
R. Wilson	2 2 2 2 0— 8	00242—8
_ '	_	
Totals	67	9 T

The Snider ammunition used was Mark VI. of 1868. The targets were made of manilla coloured paper, which served exceedingly well against the white background of snow. The Vics had the easy victory, which one might have expected from a glance at the names of the well practiced shots comprising their team, whilst none of the "Athletics" five have achieved note as marksmen at least so far as military competitions are concerned. It will be noticed in connection with the Vics' Snider score that the first three (who, by the way, all belong to No. 3 Company) made a very high average for a military rifle and revolver target, and anyone knowing of a better average will please send along particulars of it. A return match will probably be fired on Good Friday.

Gleanings.

The ladies of a section of the Greater Britain, i.e., the Island of Bermuda are, showing the way to their sisters of the mother country, in respect of the pursuit of a pastime which should have begun rather than ended at home. In short, they have established a rifle club, with the Governor's wife (Mrs. Newdegate) as president. The club consists of about 70 members, and competitions under Wimbledon rules are held in the first week of every month. The range, which is situated in the Happy Valley, is limited to 100 yards. The rifle used is 22 calibre. The institution of the club has led to the setting up of ranges on private grounds, to which young ladies take their rifles as well as their tennis bats.

Among the officers of the Northern Army of the Civil War no one was gruffer, braver, or more beloved by his men than General Stannard, who commanded a Vermont brigade. He was always enraged by any attempt of the men whom he commanded to steal, or "forage," as they called it, on private property. A private, named Hicks, on the march to Gettysburg, remarked, chuckling, to a companion that there was "nothing 'stuck up' about old Stannard. He was not ashamed to converse sociably with a private." "Has he been talking to you? What did he say?" asked the comrade. ".Told me that if I didn't get out of them cherry trees he'd kill me," was the reply.

The proceedings of the Berlin head-quarters staff are keeping the French Government in a lively state of suspense and on the sharp lookout for all the moves of their neighbours. It is known that vast quantities of coal are being stored at all the principal military centres in Alsace-Lorraine and on the frontiers nearest to France, and this mineral is justly considered as the greatest factor in modern warfare. Now, it has been noticed that all the great stock fairs in various parts of the country have of late been largely attended by buyers from abroad, evidently Jews for the majority, and all speaking German. Prices have been given unquestioned, or without bargaining for cattle, sheep and pigs, whilst the beasts purchased have been immediately slaughtered on the spot, roughly salted down, packed and sent into Germany by railway, via Belgium or Switzerland. As if these preparations were not enough to disturb the equanimity of the executive at Paris, another fact has come to light of far graver significance. At Munich lately, sixty goods vans filled with the German smokeless powder passed through the Central railway station. The consignment, which was strictly guarded against accidents, was destined for Rome, Milan and Naples through Switzerland, and addressed to the military administrations of each of those cities. As much sensation was created at Munich, by the passage of the explosive and its direction, as emotion caused at the Paris War-Office on learning the latter news. Russia, too, is not apparently quite at ease with the restlessness of the German Emperor and his warlike inclinations. Orders have been sent from St. Petersburg to hasten forward the cutting or completion of the strategical highways in Western Russia, and all the routes are to be cleared and ready for service by the ensuing spring.

We unerstand that it is the intention of the Government to establish a school of cycling at Aldershot early next year. Five hundred pounds are to be spent in providideng machnes, and we believe we are within the truth when we say that the order has already been placed with a leading Conventry firm who, in the early days of military cycling, spared no expense in the making of experimental machines. the school is established, it is hoped that volunteer cyclists will be permitted toattend and go through the same course of mili ary cycular in struction as that to be arranged forthe regular troops. This announcement will, we opine, sound strangely in the ears of those individuals who did their very utmost to prevent the manufacturers rendering any assistance to Col. Saville's committee, and did not succeed. As weprophesied two years ago, the military cycling movement is bearing trade fruit slowly, but very surely.— Cyclist.



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DATES OF COMPETITIONS-Saturday, 17th and 31st May, 14th and 28th June, 12th and 26th July, and 9th August.

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