

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE ACTIVE FORCE OF THE DOMINION.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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minute, but nevertheless those anxious spirits usually to be found between the twenty-fifth and thirty-fifth places may as well make up their minds to the inevitable and inform their friends that they have changed their plans and have decided to postpone going to England for another year. We know how it is ourselves, and for choice would prefer seeing the Queen's jubilee to the Indian and Colonial exhibition.

Mr. Lawrence W. Herchmer has been appointed commissioner of the North-west Mounted Police in the stead of Colonel Irvine, who has resigned. Mr. Herchmer, who is a brother of Col. Herchmer, the well known senior superintendent of the force, has, so far as we can learn, held no previous command, either in the militia or the police, but has made himself a good record by controlling the numerous bands of Indians in charge of the Birtle Agency and by the excellent work which he has since performed in the North-west, and for which he is highly esteemed there. Without knowing all the facts of the case at first glance we cannot help feeling sorry that this department could not see its way to promoting some of the officers already in the force rather than bring in an outsider to assume chief command.

Colonel Wyndham's military colonization scheme, to which we have alluded on more than one occasion, is exciting considerable comment in several of the North-west newspapers, which unanimously pronounce in favor of it. We have particularly remarked favorable notices of it in the *Macleod Gazette*, the *Regina Leader*, and the *Medicine Hat Times*, and hope the gallant colonel may receive the support necessary to start the settlement on a strong and sound basis.

There are some things in the militia list which we have not yet referred to that will bear investigation—for instance—if you take a pencil and figure it up you will find that every lieutenant-colonel who served in 1837-8 must either be over 63 now, or he must have been under 14 when he served forty-nine years ago, and as it is not at all probable that the latter of these contingencies frequently happened, it follows that several of our commanding officers are over the prescribed age; and if this is the case with colonels, officers of lower rank whose names are preceded in the list by the honorable figures, must have still farther passed the age limit. The age rule, though in some individual cases a harsh one, is good, but to be effectual should be used freely; and we hope to see several old officers removed before this summer's camp.

A correspondent of the *Rifle* for March draws the attention of its readers to the English position for off-hand shooting by reproducing approvingly the directions given in "The Rifle Shot's Manual of Military Rifle Target Shooting." The directions are essentially the same as in the "Rifle Exercises," except that it is recommended that the upper portion of the left arm should be rested against the breast. This is one of those details that can best be left to individual judgment, or to the rules of the competition, otherwise there is nothing new in it to Canadian shots.

COMMENT AND CRITICISM.

Now that the weather is fine again and the snow almost gone our target column, which has been, like the bears, hibernating, will once more resume activity, and become a prominent feature in our weekly issue. To make a good start we are desirous of collecting and publishing all the information possible respecting all the rifle clubs and associations in the Dominion, and would request the secretary of each club to send us by an early mail the name of his club or association, its headquarters, president's name, secretary's name and address, its strength in members, location of its range, its season's programme including matches and practices, and any other information that would be likely to prove of general interest. Even where there are ranges without regularly organized associations we should like to receive particulars respecting them. These returns will be tabulated and published by us, and thus become a full record of the shooting strength of the whole Dominion. Once more may we request the several secretaries to attend to this little detail before it slips their memories.

Colonel Bacon informs us that every one of the first twenty men eligible for places on the Wimbledon team has signified his intention of accepting the position, a unanimity unparalleled in the history of the D.R.A. Doubtless two or three will fail to come to time at the last

The British government have determined, so it has just been announced, to manufacture fifty-five thousand Martini-Enfields, notwithstanding the adverse criticism that arm has received on many hands. A letter of Mr. C. F. Lowe to the *Volunteer Service Gazette* will give an idea of some of the points brought forward against it. He objects to introducing another calibre of cartridge, in consequence of the additional liability to confusion; thinks the sights could be greatly improved by embodying wind and elevation gauges, without destroying the simplicity of the sights from a military point of view, although he personally would advocate an aperture back sight and removable barley corn to the fore sight, that could be easily replaced if injured; and finally he advocates the abolition of everything that would be liable to glitter about rifle or bayonet. He also advocates longer stocks with more crook to them than previous rifles, and in this, as in most of his other suggestions, he will receive the hearty support of the majority of shots.

The city daily papers reported that A and B batteries had returned from the North-west. The origin of the canard was the fact that thirty-one men of A battery and eleven of B, whose time had expired, or who had purchased their discharge, were seen returning in charge of Mr. Rivers.

The government has definitely decided not to engrave the recipients' names on the medals, and their issue has already been begun. It seems that no ceremony will attend their presentation, unless such should be arranged regimentally.

PERSONALS.

Lieut. T. W. Chalmers, appointed to an inspectorship in the Mounted Police force on Saturday, is a graduate of the R. M. C. class of 1883.

The following members of the Maritime Province militia have entered for a three month's course at the Fredericton School of Infantry: Capt. J. W. Baird, 74th. Batt. Sussex; Capt. A. Fullerton, 93rd, Chatham; Lieut. J. D. Perkins, 71st, Fredericton; Lieut. Foley, 94th, Baddeck, N.S.; Sergt. M. Sears, 74th, Sussex; Sergt. G. P. Rider, 71st, Fredericton; Sergt. N. R. Mackenzie, 94th, Baddeck, N.S.; Corp. D. T. Mackinnon, 94th, Baddeck, N.S.; Lee-Corp. H. Johnston, 71st, Fredericton; Pte. J. T. Kay, 71st, Fredericton, Bugler H. Hazen, 71st, Fredericton; Bugler J. Lawlor, 73rd, Chatham.

The following Canadians were presented at a levee, lately held at St. James' Palace, by the Prince of Wales, acting for Her Majesty.

Major-General Laurie, on return from active service, by H. R. H., the field marshal commanding-in-chief; Lieut. J. H. Laurie, King's Own Lincolnshire regiment, by his father, Major-general Laurie, and several other Canadian officers, who, as students at the Royal Military college, Kingston, have obtained commissions in the Imperial army. Amongst them, Lieut. K. B. Cameron, 2nd Battalion, Argyll, and Sutherland Highlanders, presented by the Marquis of Lorne, and Lieut. P. du Perron Casgrain and Lieut. H. C. Nanton, both of the Royal Engineers, presented by the inspector general of fortifications.

The Members of F Troop, Princess Louise New Brunswick Regiment of Cavalry, will be pleased to learn that their popular young lieutenant, A. J. Markham, who has been up to the calvary school at Quebec for a short course, has reported himself to his troop-commander having obtained a second-class certificate.—*Moncton Times*.

Capt. F. S. Moore, who commanded No. 2 Battery of Gar. Art., Charlottetown, which has come out so well in the D. A. A. competitions, formerly held the rank of Captain in the Militia of P. E. I. At confederation he retired retaining rank. In 1882 he organized No. 2 battery Gar. Art. and has commanded the battery ever since. In 1883 the battery competed for the first time for the prizes offered by the Governor-General, for general efficiency and for shifting ordnance, and took second place in each competition. In 1884 and 1885 the battery stood at the head of the garrison artillery force of the Dominion, taking the prize for general efficiency each year. Captain Moore has acted as sole instructor for his battery for the past three years, and to his instruction and efficiency the battery is largely indebted for the splendid record it has

attained. He holds a first-class artillery certificate. On the outbreak in the North-west this battery was among the first to volunteer (unanimously) for active service.

Respecting Lieut.-Col. Bremner, who has lately retired from the command of the 66th battalion, he has long been so well known as an enthusiastic active volunteer that he needs no eulogy at our hands; but we have collected some facts respecting his service which will doubtless prove interesting. When the Scottish volunteer rifle company was first formed, away back in the fifties, he joined it as a private, and served successively as corporal and sergeant, from which he was gazetted to a second lieutenancy in the 1st Halifax Regiment of Militia on 6th May, 1854, and eight years later got command of his company. On the 6th July, 1865, he was gazetted lieutenant-colonel commanding, passing over the heads of the two majors, and retained command of the regiment until confederation, turning out with it and remaining on duty for some time during the threatened Fenian invasion. In 1869 Col. Bremner raised the 66th battalion of Canadian Militia, with nearly all the same officers as served in the old battalion. On the landing of the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne at Halifax, the battalion formed the guard of honor, and being the first to receive Her Royal Highness in Canada, was permitted to adopt the designation "The Princess Louise Fusiliers." Later the regiment took part at Sussex, N.B., in the review in honor of the visit of the Princess Louise and the Governor-General, and at the review and sham fight held at Halifax on their visit there, Col. Bremner took command of a brigade consisting partly of Imperial troops. During last year's active service Col. Bremner went to the North-west in command of the Halifax Provisional battalion, and was frequently in command of other corps besides his own there, being the senior officer commanding a corps in the field force. It will thus be seen that militia matters have formed quite an important item in the pleasures and toils of Col. Bremner's life, for he has put in thirty-two year's service as a militia officer, twenty-one of them being as Lieutenant-Colonel commanding a battalion, and during that long period has received numerous tokens of kindly esteem from the officers under his command, especially a handsome and costly dress sword.

OBITUARY.

Less than a month ago we announced that Lieut. Russell of the 71st battalion had gone to Kingston to complete a course of military study; now we have to record his death, which occurred at Kingston last week most unexpectedly, of brain fever, and which has cast a gloom over both the Kingston and Fredericton schools as well as his own battalion and native city. Mr. Russell was by profession a lawyer, but his partiality for athletic sports and his natural activity led him towards a military life, and, having obtained a second class military school certificate in 1877 or '78 he joined Captain Cropley in 1882 in organizing No. 7 company, 71st battalion as its lieutenant, and continued to the day of his death a zealous, painstaking and efficient officer.

Finding in the military life, says the *Capital*, his true sphere of labor, he dissolved his legal partnership, so as to devote his time and attention more completely to the study of the profession of arms. He attached himself to the infantry school for a short course, and so well did he improve his time that he was authorized to enter for the longer course of twelve months.

In order to still farther qualify himself, he determined to go to the Royal Military College, Kingston, and on the morning of the 10th March, after being tendered a banquet by all the representative men of the community, he bade good-bye to his friends in Fredericton with a bright and hopeful smile. Now, in a few short weeks, we hear of his death, and are summoned to the same platform that saw him jauntily depart, to receive all that is left of Lieut. William Eder Russell.

In all the relations of his life he won the respect and esteem of his fellow citizens. His perseverance under the most trying difficulties, his industry, sobriety, and above all, his strong affection for his family, won for him the admiration and respect of all who knew him.

His remains were escorted to the Kingston station by all the troops in garrison there, and were met at the Fredericton station by the School Corps and 71st Batt., and escorted to his late residence on the 7th, whence he was buried next day with full military honors.

Mr. C. S. Seyton, formerly a stockbroker in New York, celebrated all fool's day in London, England, in a singular manner. He was examining an electric gun of American make, which he was to introduce into the English market, when it fired accidentally, putting a bullet through Seyton's heart and killing him instantly. Only the Friday before the accident Mr. Seyton lectured before the United Service Institute on the merits of the invention.

IN THE HOUSE.

On the 31st ult., Mr. Cameron (Huron) asked: "Will the time served by volunteers during the rebellion (and who were settlers on homesteads in Manitoba and the N. W. Territories) be allowed as part of the time fixed by law for occupation of homesteads?" Hon. Mr. White (Cardwell) replied: "If the hon. gentleman means residence, I can answer the question in the affirmative. Instructions to that effect were issued to the commissioner and agents of dominion lands on the 7th August last, that is to say, the service in the North-west counts for one year's residence; but, in regard to the occupation of the land, the patent does not issue until three years after entry."

The same day Mr. Casey (by Mr. Trow) moved for "copies of instructions to Major Bell, Maj.-Gen. Laurie, S. L. Bedson and others, non-combatants employed during the North-west campaign, from the Minister of Militia, Maj.-Gen. Middleton, or the adjutant-gen. of Militia, and of correspondence between the last named authorities and such non-combatants." The motion was agreed to. Sir Adolphe stating that he would bring down what he had, but that there were no written instructions, telegrams simply having passed between the department and Maj.-Gen. Laurie on the matter.

On the 6th inst., on the item of \$41,200 for the militia department coming up, Sir R. Cartwright asked for explanations regarding the recent changes in the department, and was answered by the minister, who showed that the reduction was due to the decrease of one clerk salaried at \$1,300, and his being replaced by a lower grade clerk at a salary of \$750. A discussion followed on the rate of pay of junior clerks in the civil service generally, including the militia department, in which Sir R. Cartwright, Hon. Mr. Bowell and Sir A. P. Caron took part.

On the 7th inst. Mr. Mulock asked whether the Government proposed laying before the house the report of the Board of Officers appointed to investigate the working of the Quebec cartridge factory. Sir Adolphe Caron replied in the affirmative and said he hoped to lay it on the table in a few days.

Mr. Ives enquired whether the government intended to issue scrip to the members of the Rocky Mountain Rangers, who took part in the recent rebellion. Hon. Mr. White informed him that such was the intention of the government, and in fact, some scrip has already been issued, viz: 16 scrip notes, representing 1,280 acres, and also 15 land-warrants representing 4,800 acres.

Mr. Casey in moving for correspondence in possession of the Militia Department *re* the ammunition made at the Quebec cartridge factory, gave as his reason that complaints had reached him from many quarters in Ontario as to the inferior quality of the ammunition which was sent out for use in the North-west and also to rifle associations for their annual matches.

Sir Adolphe Caron in reply said "I have already stated in answer to a question put by an hon. member that the report which was the result of an investigation by a commission appointed by myself for the purpose of looking into the complaints which had been made in reference to some of the cartridges manufactured in the Quebec cartridge factory, would be brought down almost immediately. Some complaints, no doubt, had been made. The report which I shall bring down is a very elaborate and voluminous report. It is now being copied and within a couple of days, as I have said, I think we will be able to place it upon the table. However, I cannot allow to remain unanswered the hon. gentleman's statement in reference to the cartridges and ammunition sent out to the North-west. I looked into the matter very closely, and all the reports which we received from the commandants of the different corps, and from the major-gen. commanding the force, show that the ammunition which we served to our troops was as good as could be manufactured anywhere. Some of it was English and some of it was manufactured in Quebec. But the hon. gentleman must understand, if he has looked into the matter, that a cartridge may be very good for field purposes, and yet, from some error in the detail of the manufacturer, may not be quite as perfect as it should be, for rifle practice on a target. The difference can be very well understood. The cartridges have not been declared by anybody to be useless. Very far from it; yet the deviation from the line of fire has shown them not to be as perfect as they might be.

The same experience has been had in other countries, and in England, France, Germany and other countries, experiments are going on every day for the purpose of making ammunition as perfect as possible. I shall be very glad to bring down the report and correspondence, as well as the complaints which have been made.

The report will show that every possible latitude has been given in the investigation of complaints that have been made, and I think that the report, as a practical result of that commission, is a very

valuable one, because it points out the deficiencies which I have referred to, and will enable us, no doubt, to improve the manufacture of our cartridges, and make our ammunition as excellent as that of any other country.

Sir Richard Cartwright asked where the powder was made and Sir Adolphe Caron replied that it was made by the Hamilton Powder Co., and one of the complaints was against the powder, but he pointed out how inconvenient it would be to discuss the subject before the papers were brought down as technical terms are largely used and many of the questions are altogether scientific, the question having been referred to professors in the R. M. College and a staff of leading riflemen in Canada.

[No doubt the Hamilton Powder Co. will have something to say on the other side of this important question at a later day.—ED]

RUNNING A RURAL COMPANY.

DEAR SIR,—The publication of the GAZETTE has filled a long felt want, and is no doubt, to many besides myself, very welcome, with its budget of pleasant information and food for reflection in spare moments during the following week, but the many able articles which have hitherto appeared have made me seriously doubt a rustic like myself ever attaining anything like a proper knowledge of the duties of an officer.

Our opportunities for learning them practically are so very limited, as for instance when we go to our *biennial* camp we only just have learned when and how to go in order not to tread on our neighbors' toes, when it is time to go home. It is all very well to say go to the schools, but the schools could not take us all *if we should go*.

To a country officer commanding a company whose members are of necessity scattered over a large area, rendering it next to impossible to get them together for extra drills, the thing which most recommends itself during the long period of inaction is to get all the equipments, etc., into as good order as possible, and save as much work on the morning of assembly as he can, and to devise means for turning out his men as neat and clean as possible.

With a view to inviting discussion on these points, I beg to ask you for space in which to set forth some ideas which I have on the subject, and from the application of which I think I have derived considerable benefit in the appearance and *discipline* of my company, for in my humble way I endorse fully the opinion expressed by a high authority, that to make a good soldier you must make him take a pride in himself.

The discussion of such ideas can only result in good, and may be the means of carrying to others like myself information which we have no means of obtaining in an ordinary way.

For the sake of illustration I will take the case of an officer just appointed to the command of a company, and for the first time marching it to his own headquarters at the conclusion of an annual (or biennial) drill in camp, during which he has, of course, taken care to learn the exact name and place of occupation of each man, and other particulars as to height, chest, waist and leg measurement, size of cap, boots and any other things necessary to note in order to be able to fit out each man, at the next issue of clothing, without the scramble which I have seen on such an occasion. A common memorandum book ruled into columns headed first with "name," the next with "height," then "chest," and so on, with one column for residence, another for place of occupation, and one for date of joining, will show at a glance the complete history of a man, and be invaluable. This having been done, and the company ready for the final "dismiss," each man should be given a directed post card which he should be instructed to keep carefully, and by it convey to his captain any change of residence, etc. This will cost at the outside 42 cents; how much is even one man worth who might otherwise be lost sight of?

Then if not sure of each man and article check them in clothing list, which may be in the same book as mentioned above, and should be ruled into columns for name, and one for each of the following articles: tunic, pants, forage cap, overcoat, rifle, crossbelt, accoutrements, and a few blank which are nearly sure to be useful.

In each of the columns put the number of the article opposite the name of the man wearing it, and the next time the company is called out, no matter how urgent the call, the sergeants can issue to every man his own kit in a few minutes. Then, as a last word, tell the men that when they bring in the complete balance of their uniform they will receive their pay, *but not till then*.

It mostly occurs that the pay is received by the captain in large bills, which renders it a matter of difficulty to pay on the spot, and as he is pecuniarily responsible for the clothing he can not have a better

way of ensuring his getting the whole of it in than this, and in addition it will sometimes be the means of putting it out of the power of men to commit excesses, which, in the excitement of the return home, do sometimes occur, and bring disgrace on the uniform.

Reg. and orders, 1883, par. 669, calls for payment of men on active service twice per week, but this is not apparently considered applicable to camps of instruction. I take the authority for above to be given by par. 671, and by so doing the return called for in par. 672 will be doubtless favorably affected.

The men having been all paid and the clothing, etc., all brought in, our new captain has to plan and arrange his armory, in which he will find the old proverb "a place for everything and everything in its place" a very profitable one if followed as we expect he will do; but on first looking on the various piles he will doubtless do as I did, which was, say, "how shall I ever get all these straight?"

Par. 326, R. & O. 1883, gives directions which do not agree with the following; but I submit that a country armory is not intended to be included in those directions. The first thing to tackle, however, should be the rifles, and they should be put into a rack which can be very easily and cheaply made in the following manner: Take a piece of $4\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{3}{8}$ pine or straight spruce ten feet long and mark it off right across into spaces of $2\frac{1}{2}$ in., and along one edge bore holes at that distance of $1\frac{3}{8}$ in. diameter, and so that the holes do not quite come to the edge, then by sawing square into each hole there is made a notch that will fit the rifle below the upper band; opposite each of these bore another hole of $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. diameter, into which the bayonet-sabbard of each rifle can be put, and thus the rifle and bayonet can be kept together yet independent of each other.

The rack thus made can be screwed or nailed to the wall at such a height that when the rifles are in place on the bottom board described below, the upper bands will be $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. above it. This is a suitable height also for short rifles.

The bottom board spoken of should be six inches wide by $\frac{7}{8}$ in. thick, and placed at an angle to suit the butts by means of wedges below it, and on the back of the board a strip is required $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide nailed on to it to keep the butts in line. Above each rifle then place by stencilling (or pasting figures cut from an almanac) the number, and in a few minutes after completion of the rack each rifle will be in its place.

To clean them properly take out the ramrod for polishing and prepare a tub to catch the hot water, which should be poured through the barrel by holding it muzzle down on the edge of the tub, with the left hand hold a funnel into the open breech, with the right pour in about a pint of *boiling* water, or more if the rifle is foul.

This will remove all fouling, etc., in the barrel, and a wiping rod made of wood with a brass wire loop on the end filled with hemp or flannel will thoroughly clean it. The advantage of using boiling water is that it will dry itself and prevent rust getting anywhere in the grooves.

A second rod, with a lightly oil-soaked rag or flannel, should next be run through. Use for oiling the rifle nothing but Rangoon oil, which can be bought at a reasonable price in Montreal, and, I believe, elsewhere; but be sure you get that. The ramrod should not be used for this purpose, as it is liable to damage the barrel.

Take off the lock and oil it, then the side sight and leaf, breech block, etc. The rifle should be held in a carpenter's vice and the brass work rubbed bright, after which take a large flannel cloth and rub the rifle well from muzzle to butt.

If the ramrod will not screw in take off the trigger guard by knocking out (while the lock is off) the small cross pin and taking out the screw, when the small nut will be found under the front end of guard and doubtless full of dirt, which clean out and see the hole in stock is clear.

Then comes the disposal of the clothing, and I find that the easiest way is to keep the whole stock of each article by itself, trusting to the number on each to issue to the right men, and to do this it is better to keep on shelves of dimensions given below than to pack in boxes, as the one thing required is nearly sure in the latter case to be at the bottom.

The shelves will be found to exactly hold the clothing of a company of 42 men if made as follows:—Put up two uprights $8' 6''$ apart by $8' 9''$ high and put in four shelves at the following heights— $2' 9''$, $4' 4''$, $5' 11''$ and $7' 6''$.

If the ceiling of the armory is more than nine feet in height the top will just hold the canteens and pouches nicely. I should have before stated that the width of the shelves should be sixteen inches. Next divide the shelves from top to bottom into three divisions by partitions, when it will be found that there will be fifteen divisions, which will just hold as follows—on the ground put the knapsacks in tiers of seven, two in each division, and the 42 knapsacks are in place;

next shelf above put the pants folded into three, with the back of waist showing where the number has been stencilled in white lead, of which we will speak later; these divisions will hold each two piles of eleven, so that two divisions only are required, and in the third make three little shelves to hold on each 14 of the glongarries and the rest of space will be available for books, etc., etc. On the next shelf put the tunics folded full length, with the back of skirt to the front, alternately laid right and left, odd numbers one way even the other; each of these divisions will hold fourteen tunics nicely.

On the upper shelves put the overcoats, four in each division, folded in such a way that the inside of cape shows on which is the number stencilled in white lead.

The next thing to tackle is the mass of awkward and apparently bulky accoutrements, but here will be seen the reason I mentioned the shoulderbelts as requiring a separate column in the clothing list, as all the other accoutrements can be made to fit any man; but it cannot.

The list of accoutrements which can therefore be arbitrarily allotted to any man and are referred to under that heading, is as follows:—Waist belt, frog, ballbag, knapsack, knapsack slings, knapsack great coat-straps (2), canteen, canteen strap, haversack, rifle-sling.

Put the whole of these into the knapsack except the canteen and they are out of the way; it will be found very handy to put into the haversack the knapsack, slings, coat-straps and canteen straps. I have not mentioned water bottles, as they practically are not a portion of our equipment, why so I will not discuss, but leave it to the "Odd File;" or perhaps "Misty" can give us a streak of light on the subject.

The knapsack is a very much abused article in many ways, and the varnish which is put on it is often very bad, but to prevent them sticking to the men's coats spread out any on which the varnish is soft and rub hard with turpentine and after with equal parts of turpentine and boiled linseed oil, then hang to dry in the shade and it will be found that the difficulty has been overcome.

When a man has a shoulderbelt which fits him it should be taken off the pouch and rolled up in the knapsack allotted to him.

The pouches can be kept with the canteens, and then I think we shall have achieved the object of finding a place for everything.

It will be seen by the dimensions given above that a very large room is not necessary to store the arms and equipments of one company, and it is also certain that less room is needed by the plan given than to keep the things in boxes.

The whole of the clothing can be kept free from dust and moths by hanging a common cotton curtain in front and lining the shelves with tar paper (which should be covered with other paper); cedar brush scattered over them is a good preventive of destruction by moths. The rifles will also be much better for the hanging of a curtain in front of them.

I have frequently referred to the number on each article of clothing and equipment, and will now describe how the numbers may be put on and allotted to the different men.

For the sake of illustration we will suppose the clothing to be just received from store and will take first the tunics, and as they come out of the box stencil the number on the inside of skirt at the back, then enter in another place in the memo. book referred to twice previously the sizes marked on it by the maker, which, notwithstanding what I have heard, are very little wrong if they are ever wrong.

A set of half-inch stencils and a brush cost very little and do the business well.

Do this with each tunic and then go through with the pants and caps, keeping each on separate pages.

When it is required to issue look down the size columns for one which will suit your man, whose sizes, etc., you already have, and say "try on number so-and-so" and you will find him fitted, and by this means your three sergeants can be fitting, one tunics, another pants, and the third caps at the same time.

Turn to your list with the man's name and enter in each column the number and your work is done and no worry of "captain, my coat don't fit and my pants are too long."

Immediately a man joins take height, sizes, etc., and swear him in. This will save you a lot of worry.

Mark every set of accoutrements in black on the inside of each piece, but before doing so (I am dealing with an infantry company) wash it clean, scrubbing off the old pipeclay and dry in a breezy place.

After marking give them a coat of pipeclay made not thicker than milk and water and which has been prepared by mixing one part clean soap, one part of starch and three parts of pipeclay with a little blue in it; give after drying a second and third coat, taking care to do the edges, and having removed all brass work for separate cleaning.

When this is done the belt can be handled without the white coming off and will look well.

I have found that a man of ordinary intelligence can do all this work for a company if paid a dollar per day and do it several times per year, yet leaving a balance to set off against rent, etc., when the care of arms allowance is received.

I must, if you find space for all I have said, try the patience of any of your readers who take the trouble to wade through it all, but I would like to know if any of them have any objections to the plans shown and if any handier system of keeping the clothing, etc., can be given. Of course a list is kept posted in the room with each man's name and the number of each article so that he can refer to it and when on service I propose to paste inside the flap of knapsack a list for his reference.

The canteens should be stamped with the regimental and company's number, also the pouches marked, and then there need be no bother about them, as they can be at once identified.

All this may seem very childish to some old soldiers, but to us rustics these little things mean a great deal.

RURALIST.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ENGLISH VOLUNTEER MEDICAL SERVICE AND FOR THE UTILIZATION OF VOLUNTEER MEDICAL AID IN WAR.

BY SURGEON-MAJOR G. J. H. EVATT, M.D., ARMY MEDICAL STAFF.

(Continued from page 380.)

Again: we could separate the duties of the present divisional staff-surgeon in medical charge of the officers of the divisional staff from the duties of sanitary officer of the division, a most important—nay, most highly important post, but which cannot be properly filled by a man engaged all day in looking after the sick officers, clerks, and numerous odds and ends of a divisional staff. The two duties are dissimilar, hopelessly apart, and it must be difficult to find a man combining both classes of work efficiently. By the officers set free from the introduction of volunteer surgeons we can appoint a special sanitary officer to each division—a very needful reform.

Again: we can give to the divisional principal medical officer that highly important key-stone of the medical aid in a division—a staff-officer and secretary. Everyone agrees he is needed, but a short-handed corps cannot spare the man. Remove a man from the base hospital, put in a volunteer surgeon, and make the removed man secretary. This would be a very great aid to war efficiency. The staff of the surgeon-general of any army corps could also be increased.

There are many other points which could be brought forward showing the utility of the temporary class of volunteer officers we suggest. Why should we not utilize them?

As to cost, let us remember these officers are all to be charged, not to the annual medical estimates, but to the war vote, and in the bill for the war they form a very small item—almost inappreciable. Under this scheme we can provide a volunteer doctor for a campaign at a cost less than a few shots of the 80-ton gun.

Let us then fall back on the civil population. Let us utilize members of the civil profession of medicine; but if we are to do so let us also teach them our specialism, organise their service in peace, and let them come to us knowing their responsibilities, and well prepared for the war work needed of them. In the preceding paragraph I have endeavoured to show how alone this can be done—that is by definite systematic training in peace.

31.—EXTENSION OF THE SAME WAR AID PLAN TO QUARTER-MASTERS AND TO THE RANK AND FILE OF THE VOLUNTEER MEDICAL STAFF CORPS.

No difficulty ought to exist in applying the principles of the previous paragraph to the services of quartermasters, apothecaries, or non-commissioned officers and men of the rank and file of the medical volunteers.

If men choose to come for a campaign, there should be a local list of such men kept at the district head-quarters, and they should undergo an examination as to physical and educational fitness and knowledge of their technical work.

If men do volunteer, place should be found for them in the army field hospital mobilized in their own district, so that they might be amongst friends, and after the war they should be returned home again to their own district. The principle of deferred pay or gratuity could also be applied to them.

32.—FEMALE NURSES IN WAR TIME.

The same principles here laid down apply exactly the same to female nurses. There is no reason whatever why a defined body of volunteer war nurses should not be organized in peace for war, and such nurses could be obtained from our large civil hospitals by carrying into them the principles of a volunteer corps with a war reserve. Lists of names would be kept in the war office of nurses ready to go to war if needed.

33.—CONCLUSION.

Nothing now remains to be said save to explain that this paper is written to endeavour to weld the medical service of the army more and more completely with the civil profession, so that war efficiency may be achieved by conjoint action.

However much at first sight it may seem to be a relinquishment of rights, and a sharing with those not in our own special corps the high privilege of rendering good service to the nation in war, we must conquer such a feeling and stand by this one principle that the interest of the army and the nation are one and identical, and the more completely they are welded together the better it will be for both. Let us learn from the bitter history of the past that an army isolated from the nation, standing up for exclusive privileges, claiming to possess an exclusive knowledge, may so weaken its hold on the nation as to perish in any great struggle with none to help it.

Such a catastrophe fell upon our Crimean army. Forty years of peace, of non-organization of the national forces, of neglect of the militia, of complete disappearance of the volunteers, of entire absence of military training of the manhood of the nation, of isolation of the military class from the people as a whole, left our army to perish on the heights before Sebastopol with not a man in the country trained behind it as a reserve for war.

Of the magnificent battalions who marched past before the Sultan in 1854, 20,000 perished in the Crimean winter, and there was not in England a citizen trained to take their place.

We stand in different conditions to-day. The nation as a whole is being leavened with military knowledge, and defective though our organization may still be in important links, we are infinitely more ready for any great war than ever before, since Waterloo.

The aim of these paragraphs is to urge on the organization of the medical and sanitary and ambulance side of the national army, and no difficulty exists why what we aim at should not be realized.

OFFICERS OF THE NORTH-WEST MOUNTED POLICE.

The following list of officers in the Mounted Police appears in last week's official Gazette.

His Excellency the Governor-General has been pleased to make the following appointment to the North-west Mounted Police force, viz:—

To be Commissioners—Lawrence William Herchmer, Esq., from 1st April, 1886, *vice* Lt.-Col. Acheson Gosford Irvine, resigned.

The following are the present officers of the North-west Mounted Police force, all other commissions being hereby cancelled:—

Commissioner—Lawrence William Herchmer, appointed 1st April, 1886.

Assistant Commissioner—Lief N. Fitzroy Crozier, 1st April, 1885.

Superintendents—William Macaulay Herchmer, 1st Aug., 1876; John Cotton, 1st Jan., 1881; John Henry McIlree, 24th Jan., 1882; Severe Gagnon, 1st Sept., 1883; Robert Burton Deane, 1st April, 1884; Percy Reginald Neale, 1st April, 1884; Samuel Benfield Steele, 1st Aug., 1885; Aylesford Bowen Perry, 1st Aug., 1885; Arthur Henry Griesbach, 15th Sept., 1885; Alexander Roderick Macdonell, 15th Sept., 1885; Edward Worrell Jarvis, 10th April, 1886.

Inspectors—William Denny Antrobus, 1st March, 1876; Francis Norman, 24th Jan., 1882; Joseph Howe, 1st July, 1883; Montague Henry White-Fraser, 1st May, 1884; William Springfield Mildmay Morris, 1st May, 1884; Gilbert Edward Sanders, 1st Sept., 1884; Frederic Drayner, 15th Oct., 1884; John Beresford Allan, 1st Aug., 1885; Zachary Taylor Wood, 1st Aug., 1885; Philip Carteret Hill Primrose, 1st Aug., 1885; Albert Edward Ross Cuthbert, 1st Aug., 1885; Arthur Edward Snyder, 1st Aug., 1885; Henry David Likely, 15th Sept., 1885; William Piercy, 15th Sept., 1885; John Alexander McGibbon, 15th Sept., 1885; Sydney George Mills, 15th Sept., 1885; James Osgoode Wilson, 15th Sept., 1885; Charles François Albert Huot, 15th Sept., 1885; John Douglas Moodie, 15th Sept., 1885; Joseph Victor Bégin, 22nd Oct., 1885; William Alphonso Brooks, 10th Nov., 1885; Cortlandt Starnes, 1st March, 1886; Thos. Wellington Chalmers, 10th April, 1886.

Senior Surgeon—Augustus Jukes, M.D., 24th Jan., 1882.

Assistant Surgeons—Robert Miller, M.D., 25th Oct., 1875; George A. Kennedy, M.D., 1st Oct., 1878; John Widmer Rolph, M.D., 1st Aug., 1885; H. Yarwood Baldwin, M.D., 1st Nov., 1885.

PRESENTATION TO COLONEL OTTER.

An address and testimonial were presented to Lieut.-Col. Otter on Wednesday last in the Toronto council chamber. Mayor Howland presided. Mr. Hugh Blain, chairman of the committee, stated that the testimonial had been thought of soon after Col. Otter's appointment as commandant of the Infantry School, but the North-west disturbances and other causes had deferred it until the present. The Colonel had kindly consented to receive the testimonial (a purse containing \$700) then, and to wait till after his return from the North-west for the address. This address, written over a year ago, when read and viewed in the light of events which had occurred since then, would thoroughly justify, he thought, the estimate the committee then formed of Col. Otter as a soldier and of the influence he was destined to exert on the militia of this country. The address was prepared in album form, handsomely bound in morocco leather. The text of the address was engrossed in old English and the borders beautifully illuminated. On the front page is Col. Otter's family crest, finely executed in colors. On the next page is the preface. In the border of this page are the city arms and the monograms of Col. and Mrs. Otter. After the address follow the signatures of subscribers. Among them are those of all the members of the Ontario government, the leading citizens of Toronto and Hamilton, officers and men of the Queen's Own, and officers of the Grenadiers, numbering in all upwards of six hundred. The address is dated March, 1885. R. Y. Ellis, secretary of the committee, read the address as follows:—

To Lieut.-Col. Wm. Dillon Otter, Commandant of "C" Company, Infantry School:

We, your friends and fellow-citizens, congratulate you on your appointment to the position of commandant of the school of infantry established by the Dominion government in Toronto, and desire to express our appreciation of the services you have rendered not merely to our city but to the country at large. The active interest you have always taken in manly exercises has been a marked characteristic of your career. The Ontario rifle association is largely indebted to your zeal for its prosperity. As the officer commanding the Wimbledon team you secured the affectionate esteem of your men, and well earned the approval of your brother officers. Your patriotic labors in connection with the Queen's Own rifles, extending over a period of 20 years, have won for you the admiration of your countrymen. The efficiency this favorite corps attained under your command demonstrates to our people the possibility in Canada of a citizen soldiery, and gained from the highest military authorities frequent expressions of satisfaction and praise. The discipline and bearing of the men have had a noticeably beneficial influence on the entire force in Ontario and Quebec. As Canadians, we feel a pardonable pride in the fact that when his Excellency the Governor-General sought an officer to fill the responsible position you now occupy, you proved to be one who, in military skill equalled, and a knowledge of the men to be dealt with surpassed, any who could have been chosen from any regiment of the line. Your appointment commends itself to us the more, as we know it is a recognition of merit. We are confident that in the discharge of the duties of the position, you will justify the wisdom of the policy which your appointment represents—a policy well calculated to stimulate our young men to qualify themselves for filling places of honor and trust in their own country. The incentives to honorable competition should not be wontonly placed beyond the reach of our own people. The reward which excellence in any department may naturally look for should be open to every Canadian. We are sure that the graduates of the school of infantry will not only become trained officers, and leave its walls imbued with good feeling towards their fellow-militiamen throughout the Dominion, but also will carry with them an increased love and respect for the land which furnishes to them competent instructors and adequate means of acquiring a military education.

We beg your acceptance of this testimonial and address, and earnestly pray that, with Mrs. Otter, who has always taken the deepest interest in those public matters which were of interest to you, you may be spared to attain still higher preferment in the service in which you are engaged.

The Lieutenant-Governor in presenting the address, said:—

If there was one thing more than another in which he took pride, it was to pay honor to those Canadians who, in the estimation of the people of the province, had done good service to the country. He had listened with pleasure to the remarks which had been made by the Mayor and Mr. Blain touching the services of Col. Otter. In his estimation, and that of every gentleman in the room, they were well deserved. They all knew the services Col. Otter had rendered in the various capacities alluded to, and that he had discharged his duties in a way which had commanded the respect and esteem of the men of his regiment and of all those with whom he came into contact. He had shown as a militia officer that he could not only adapt himself to the rules laid down by the Government, but could carry them out with that common sense which the people of this country admired so much. It was truly thought that if the militia system were allowed to decay every institution of the province would be weakened. The militia was the mainstay of the executive—to carry out and maintain our laws, to put down insurrection, and to repel foreign invasion. He would ask if the history of the militia of the province had not been such that on every occasion it had answered the description he had given of it? He congratulated Col. Otter on the testimonial offered him. He doubted whether any native-born Canadian had been in a position to receive such a testimonial before.

Lieut.-Col. Otter, in responding, said that he accepted with pride and gratitude the address and testimonial which had been so kindly presented to him, and it was with a deep sense of humility that he had to acknowledge that at that moment he felt totally unable to thank them as he should do. In the address they had kindly referred to the active interest which he had taken for many years past in manly exercises. That interest, as many of those present knew, had been a pleasure to him. It was taken partly from selfish motives, but in many respects from the sense of the necessity to encourage the young men of our country to practise those exercises which would fit them in after-life to uphold the honor and dignity of their

country and push forward the athletic interests of Canada before the rest of the world. He was sorry to say that he had now arrived at a time of life at which he could not take an active interest in these exercises as he had done in the past, the more especially as other duties pressed more heavily upon him. His connection with the militia force dated back a great many years. His service had been a long and active one, and Mr. Blain and those he represented now assured him that it had been a useful one. No man could ask or expect more. His name had been mentioned with that of the regiment of which he was for many years a member and an officer, and credit had been given him for placing that regiment in a leading position among the corps of the Dominion. He need scarcely tell them that the interest he took in that regiment was a *bona fide* one, and that he had endeavored with spirit and determination to bring it to the front. With the assistance of many other zealous men in the regiment he was enabled, as they had kindly said, to succeed, and now he had severed his connection with that regiment, and exchanged his loyalty to another corps and position in the service, he could only say that the same zeal and enthusiasm which he had heretofore displayed would continue in his new occupation. He was and had been enthusiastic. Many people had thought that he had been more than that, and he had at one time been given the appellation of a martinet and had been called too arbitrary and severe. He must totally deny all these charges. He knew in his own heart that not one of these charges could be brought home to him. He would admit that he was strict, and so he would continue to be, for he considered that, with the material which existed among the Canadians, a force equal to any in the world could be made if handled with care and with a proper example set before it. He laid down a line of conduct on assuming the position he now held and hoped to be able to carry it out. Time would prove whether he was right and whether this line of conduct would produce the results he anticipated. Their reference to his appointment at the military school he received with many thanks, as they had attributed it so nicely and kindly to merit on his part. He might be allowed without egotism to say that he thought they were not far wrong in their supposition, for he obtained the appointment without solicitation or any political influence in the slightest shape or form. For that reason he presumed that the government had confidence in him as an administrative officer and considered him deserving. It was his desire that the militia force should be brought more closely into contact with the school, and that the teaching of the school might be so extended as to produce all the benefit of the influence it was hoped and expected it would have. In conclusion he thanked them on behalf of Mrs. Otter for the very kind manner in which they had spoken of her, and he was sure the reference to her in the address would reward her for the many anxious evenings she had to spend alone while he was at drill. He felt greatly honored by the attendance of the Lieutenant-Governor and the Mayor, and begged them to accept his thanks.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A SUGGESTION TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE D.R.A.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

DEAR SIR,—Allow me through your valued paper to offer a suggestion which will at least bear a thought, even if not acted on, this year viz.: Why not have one match shot with the Martini counting in the aggregate, when all the matches at home are shot with that rifle; and the chief object that actuates every rifle shot going to Ottawa is to try and get to that paradise of riflemen—Wimbledon. Now, when I suggest the following, I only echo the sentiments of scores of other shots here, that is, let the Dominion of Canada match be shot with the Martini at same ranges as usual, and the Governor-General's, at 200, 500, 600, 800 and 900 yards, also with the Martini, which would bring out the shooting qualities of the men, and at the same time be a thorough test as to who should represent Canada.

Of course I do not for a moment pretend to dictate to the committee, but merely offer this as a suggestion, which if once acted on, would, I think, gradually bring us all nearer the home style. I trust this will start some one else talking, and result in some good.

REFORM.

THE TARGET.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

A special meeting of a sub-committee of the P. Q. R. A. was held on Monday the 5th inst., in the Brigade office, when it was resolved that there should be a public presentation of prizes at the annual matches in August next, and the following gentlemen were requested to act as a special committee for that purpose:—Lieut.-Cols. Van Straubensee, Oswald, Bond, Crawford, Caverhill, Ouimet, Kennedy, Brossseau, Massey, Stevenson, Capt. Stevenson, Campbell, Paterson, Prevost, Major Aubry, Major Henshaw, Lieut. Miller and Capt. Clapham. It is the intention of the association to request the Minister of Militia to present the prizes.

It behooves Canadian marksmen to look to their laurels at Wimbledon. The Guernsey riflemen had held three competitions to decide their Kolapore team previous to the 19th March, and at the best of these fifteen competitions had made eighty or over.

LINDSAY.—Practice on the ranges begins next week. The rifle association in Victoria are being placed on a systematic basis. Every village is to have a small association in affiliation with the county association at Lindsay.

MONTREAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of this association was held on Saturday, the 3rd April, Capt. Newton presiding. The meeting was one full of interest for rifle shots. It was resolved to revive small bore shooting this season; to send a team to shoot at Creedmore, and to have the June Match shot with the Martini-Henry at 600, 800 and 900 yards; sighting shots to be abolished. The following were elected office bearers for the ensuing year: President, Capt. Dunn, 35th Battalion; First Vice-President, Major Laurie, M.G.A.; Second Vice-President, Capt. Bosse, 65th; Secretary-Treasurer (re-elected), Lieut. Patterson, 85th battalion; Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Lavers; Committee, Major Jackson, 85th; Pte. Cook, Royal Scots; Sergt. Marks, 6th; Sergt. McRae, P.W.R.; Mr. Kough, M.F.B.; Mr. Lawless. Votes of thanks were accorded to the retiring office bearers, and the meeting then adjourned.

REGIMENTAL NOTES.

(We wish to publish information respecting all the doings of all corps. Will the officers interested, particularly at a distance, assist us by having news relating to their corps promptly forwarded?)

35TH BATT.—Companies Nos. 1 and 5, whose headquarters are at Barrie, have begun voluntary drills, which they propose continuing through the spring.

Company orders, No. 1. In pursuance of regimental orders, 29th ult., No. 1 company will parade every Wednesday at 7.30 p.m., at the drill shed.

No. 2. The commanding officer has been pleased to make the following promotions: To be sergeant, Bandsman John Deans, vice Barrand, promoted; to be corporal, Private Wm. Hudson, vice White, discharged.

CHAS. S. F. SPRY, Capt. commanding No. 1.

TORONTO.—The Queen's Own turned out last Wednesday nearly 400 strong. Col. Miller put them through the manual and firing exercises, the regiment being hampered as usual by want of space. The bugle band furnished the music.

The men who were on active service are requested to sign pay sheets now ready for some \$8 or \$10 kit money due them.

The non-commissioned officers' class will meet Fridays instead of Wednesdays, as heretofore. Peremptory orders have been issued for every non-com. to attend.

The ambulance corps' drill and lectures begin Monday evening at 8.

The signal corps will meet Saturday evening for reorganization.

The following promotions have been made: To be assistant sergt-major, Col.-Sergt. Crean; to be orderly room clerk, Col.-Sergt. J. S. Macdonald, vice Walker; to be sergeant of pioneers, Sergt. Hart, vice Foreman, transferred to the band; to be col.-sergt. F. Co., Sergt. J. McLaren, vice Austin; to be sergeants, Corporal Robinson, vice McLaren, Corporal Gibson, vice Rough, placed on the supernumerary list, and Corporal McIntosh, vice Forster; to be corporal, Private George, vice McIntosh, promoted.

The Grenadiers paraded on Thursday about 250 strong, under the command of Major Harrison. Great sympathy with the Colonel was expressed throughout the regiment for his second bereavement within so short a time, by the death of his brother, Mr. George Grasett. At the funeral on Friday the officers sent flowers as a testimony of their heartfelt sympathy with their beloved colonel, and most of the officers who were in the city attended the ceremony.

Mrs. J. Fletcher, 20 St. Joseph street, writes to *The Mail* as follows:—The anniversary is approaching of the death of those brave men whom Toronto lost in the North-west rebellion. Would it not be as well that we should have (like our sister in the United States) an annual commemoration day, to show that our noble dead still live in the remembrance of those for whom they sacrificed themselves; and also that when we are gone our children's children may still do homage to the memories of those who fell in the defence of their common country. Ontario should also in this, her capital city, raise some monument, on which the names of all her departed heroes should be inscribed.

DUFFERIN RIFLES.—Regimental parade on Thursday evening next and each succeeding Thursday. Recruit class next Tuesday and each succeeding Tuesday.—*Brantford Telegram*.

63RD RIFLES.—The quarterly meeting of No. 2 company, under the command of Capt. Hechler, was held in their orderly room last Monday evening, when several new members were enrolled.

The battalion paraded in the drill shed in drill order last Monday evening at 8 o'clock.

A. Co., I. S. C.—Sergeant Polkinhorn has been promoted to the position of instructor on the staff of the infantry school. This is an excellent appointment, Staff Sergeant Polkinhorn having formerly been a color sergeant in a line regiment, and has displayed special qualifications as an instructor. The staff now comprises Sergts. Fowlie, Polkinhorn, Chapelle and Sutton—all thoroughly competent instructors.—*Fredericton Capital*.

Col. Maunsell has issued the following general order as D.A.G.: The officers of the School of Infantry, and attached officers as well as officers 71st battalion, will wear crape when in uniform for one month from this date, as shown in Queen's Regulations, in memory of the late Lieut. Russell.

P. E. I. BRIG. GAR. ART.—The Governor-General's prizes for general efficiency and for shifting ordnance, competed for under the conditions and rules fixed by the Dominion Artillery Association, have again been carried off by this brigade. No. 1 battery, Capt. Passmore, winning the latter, and No. 2 battery, Capt. Moore, the former—and the following individual prizes for shooting in small prize artillery competitions: Sergt. Weatherbie, No. 3 battery, Georgetown, 1st prize, \$8; Corpl. Offer, No. 1 battery, 2nd prize, \$5; Gunner McLeod, No. 2 battery, \$4; Gunner Music, No. 2 battery, \$4; Gunner Moore, No. 2 battery, \$4; Gunner Aitken, No. 1 battery, \$2; Sergt. Down, No. 2 battery, \$2; Corpl. Connolly No. 1 battery, \$2.

The general efficiency prize was carried off by No. 2 battery with a score of 108, in face of very great odds. The battery coming nearest to them—namely, the Toronto battery—having been inspected while doing garrison duty at the new fort, Toronto, therefore having the advantage of continuous drills and discipline.

The time made by No. 1 battery in the shifting ordnance competition is looked upon by experienced artillery men as wonderful, and reflects great credit on Sergt. Palmer, who was the No. 1 in charge of the detachment, and we hope to hear of his being selected as a member of the Canadian artillery team to Shoeburyness this year.

The honor of possessing the two most efficient batteries in the Dominion of Canada is something of which Charlottetown may well be proud.—*Patriot*.

LINDSAY.—The students attending Lindsay High School are to receive drill instructions weekly, Capt. and Adj. S. Hughes having volunteered to perform the service gratuitously.

Already preparations are being made for the June camp.

The Band of the 45th battalion will give a grand concert here on 6th May. Proceeds partly in aid of the European trip fund, and partly for the purchase of a military bell for the new chimes on St. Paul's Church, Lindsay.

Capt. Wallace has completed the alterations in his armory. It is now splendidly fitted up.

OMEMEE.—Capt. Evans and Lieut. Thornton, of No. 5, Omemees Co. 45th battalion, having kindly consented to drill the students of Omemees High School, the Board have, we learn, accepted their free offer. Drill begins at an early date.

VICTORIA RIFLES.—The members of the "Vic's" had a largely attended meeting at their armory on Sherbrooke street, on Friday evening last, it being the 1st annual meeting of the Cricket Association of the battalion. After the regular meeting of the association had been gone through the following were elected officers for the year: Patron, Major-Gen. Middleton; Hon. President, Col. Crawford; Hon. Vice-Presidents, Major Davidson and Henshaw; President, Capt. Radiger; Vice-Presidents, Capt. Bacon and Lieut. Wardlow; Secretary-Treasurer, Sergt. R. P. Adams; Committee, Capts. Edwards and Becket, Lieut. Wake, Sergts. Ramsay and Fletcher, Ptes. Thom, Liddle and C. Ramsay; Match Committee, Lieuts. Wake and Doucet, Sergt. Ramsey, Ptes. Holliday and Liddle. It was decided to arrange dates with those clubs that played the club last year and also to open communications with other clubs. The club will practise every Saturday afternoon on St. Helen's Island.

5TH ROYAL SCOTS.—This regiment has entered most vigorously upon its company drills, and the parades held are well attended; all the vacancies in the companies have been filled, and some of them have a large roll of applicants waiting or vacancies to occur. This battalion has also held several meetings preparing for the summer shooting.

6TH FUSILIERS.—This battalion has been putting in company drill at its armory for some weeks past preparatory to commencing the annual drills. On the 15th inst., examination of applicants for the vacancies caused by the retirement of non-commissioned officers will be held. There is a large number of aspirants for the positions and a keen and interesting competition is anticipated.

7TH FUSILIERS.—For the past few years this corps has performed its drill at battalion headquarters in the evening, and up to the time the battalion went to the North-west it had not been under canvas for some years. This season, however, it is proposed to go to camp and drill in the morning and evening, allowing the members to attend to business during the day. This plan has been tried by a Montreal battery of artillery for some years, and found to work admirably. Reveille sounds at 5 a.m.; drill, from 5.30 to 6.30; breakfast, and then dismissal for the day. In the evening tea is served at 6; the battalian falls in at 6.30 and drills until 8.30. From the latter hour until 10 the men amuse themselves, and then "last post" blows, while fifteen minutes later "lights out" sounds. By this means the men get an insight into camp duties, which it is quite as necessary for them to learn as drill. The strength of the battalion is rapidly increasing, and at present 53 recruits comprise the strength of the "akward squad." Sergt.-Major Byrne, assisted by Sergts. McDonald, Mills and Summers, are engaged in drilling the recruits, while Capt Tracy and Lieuts. Bapty and Pope instruct the older members in rifle exercise. Besides this, Sergt.-Major Byrne has a class consisting of about twenty officers and sergeants who meet at the orderly-room weekly for drill and instruction. Another class is also being trained in the sword exercise. The success of Capt. Little and Lieut. Pope in gaining certificates at the military school has excited a spirit of emulation among the officers which has also extended to the men, and, as a consequence, the battalion is rapidly being put upon a war footing.—*London Advertiser*.

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B. CHAMBERLIN,

Ottawa, May, 1885.

O.P



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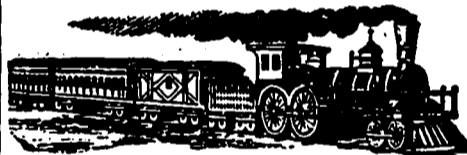
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