

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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## THE MILITIA IN PARLIAMENT.

Major Sam. Hughes has at the outset of his parliamentary career made an excellent beginning in the matter of formally calling the attention of the authorities to the necessities of the militia force and to glaring defects in the system. On the 30th ult., in accordance with notice given, he moved in the House of Commons for a return showing the following:—

1. The corps of the Active Militia of Canada that have been drilled (*a*) annually, (*b*) biennially, (*c*) triennially, in the period 1889-1891 inclusive. 2. The number of qualified combatant officers in each corps. 3. The number of provisionally appointed officers in each corps, specifying those whose period for qualification has expired. 4. The name, length of service and age of each commanding officer upwards of sixty years of age. 5. The actual strength of, and number of enlistments in, during the year 1891, each of the permanent corps, located in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick.

Speaking in explanation of his motion he presented a strong array of facts showing the necessity for a remodelling of the existing arrangements. The schools, and the permanent corps in connection with them, came in for special criticism, timely and forcible. Major Hughes did not by any means contend that the schools have not served a useful purpose; on the contrary he gave them great credit for the useful instruction imparted to the comparative few who have attended them. He dwelt, however, upon the enormous cost of these institutions, amounting to \$1,200 for each certificate granted, emphasizing the point that the educational facilities afforded are practically the only return received for the immense outlay on the school corps, their value as a standing army being nothing. He pointed out that the courses are not held at the time most suitable, that the dress requirements are such that the needless expense they

involve prevents many officers from attending, and that so limited is the living accommodation at the schools that they could not possibly take in all who by regulation should attend, as only about one-third of the present officers of the force have the prescribed qualification. He advocated a return to the old system, under which all attended the schools as cadets, and were granted certificates according to merit, without reference to the rank held at the time in the militia. These cadets wore a simple, inexpensive uniform, and the accommodation was never overtaxed, as they did not live in barracks but found their own quarters in the town.

Major Hughes made a strong plea for annual drills for the rural corps as well as the rest of the force, and he proceeded to show how even the time now spent biennially in camp is largely wasted or misapplied, because of the incompetence of some commanding officers, and the nature of the exercises often prescribed by the camp commandants. As a sample of the absurdities witnessed he instanced the common practice of putting companies of healthy, vigorous young men, morning after morning of the brief camping period, through the extension motions, for the good of their health! The common violation of the regulation respecting the retirement of officers who have passed the age limit was referred to, and Major Hughes urged that this should be strictly enforced in the future.

The debate was continued by Lt.-Col. O'Brien, who expressed views quite contrary to those of Major Hughes on the school system and the use of the time now spent in camp, but joined him in advocacy of annual drills for the whole force. This he held to be something that should be pressed for to the exclusion of everything else, until granted by the Government. In conclusion Col. O'Brien

made a most unlooked for attack upon the Royal Military College. He said:—

"We really get no good from the college, never have got any good from it, and from present appearances we are not likely to derive any benefit from it. That college should be brought more in harmony with the needs of the force. It is an admirable school, no doubt, and if I had a son I would send him to it, but it is not an institution which is of any particular benefit to the force. I do not know a dozen men in the active force at present who were educated at the military college. I wish we could get them, but unfortunately we cannot. I have suggested a means by which the military college might be brought into harmony with the active force, but I was told that nothing could be done because it would interfere with the examinations. If that is the case, then it is merely an educational institution for the benefit of the public, and if so, it ought not to be charged to the active militia."

There is no doubt that the Royal Military College is of immense value as an educational institution, apart from the strictly military features of its course, but we fancy that Col. O'Brien will find few persons informed as to the facts to agree with him that the militia get no good from the college. And an examination of the Militia List will show him the names of very many graduates now holding positions of great influence and usefulness in the force.

After Lt.-Col. Amyot and Lt.-Col. Denison had spoken, each strongly advocating annual drill, and a return to the old system of cadet classes, the Minister of Militia replied, and the importance of this first official utterance of Col. Bowell as to his intended administration of his new department warrants us in reproducing his remarks in full. He said:—

There can be no possible objection to laying before the House the information sought for in this resolution. I frankly confess that I am fully in accord with a good many of the suggestions which have

been made by the mover of this motion, and by the hon. member for Toronto (Col. Denison). There may be reasons, and those of a minor character, which may prevent carrying out to the fullest extent the suggestions they have made with reference to drilling the whole militia, but that there should be some system adopted by which officers occupying the position occupied by the officers of the 9th Battalion, referred to by the hon. member for Bellechasse (Col. Amyot), should be enabled to obtain their certificates without leaving their homes and attending the schools for two or three months, I have no doubt; and it shall be my aim if I am spared to preside over this department for any length of time, to devise some economical system by which officers in the different corps of the Dominion may obtain certificates qualifying them for permanent appointments on the staff. I am also in accord, to a certain extent, with the remarks of the hon. member for North Victoria (Major Hughes) on the old system. Probably I am prejudiced somewhat, because in my more active days in connection with the force that system prevailed, and I should schrcely like to say that the officers of that day are not qualified to serve under the gallant colonel who spoke a few moments ago, from Muskoka (Col. O'Brien). I recognize this fact also, while not agreeing with the hon. member for North Victoria in the democratic sentiments he has uttered, at least not to the full extent. In all military organizations there must be something like discipline, and unless there is discipline and that most rigidly enforced, I do not believe any force can be effective, particularly when called upon to perform the duties for which they have banded themselves together. In the hon. gentleman's self is an illustration, probably, of the remarks he made, that if the private knows more than the officer the officer should get out and the private take his place. I fully recognize the fact that the hon. gentleman, when I had the pleasure of drilling him some quarter of a century ago, gave evidence of the qualities of a good soldier who would ultimately rise to the top of the ladder, and who will not, whenever his services may be required, be found wanting either in courage, skill or intellect, or in the performance of his duties. At that time I was considered the master, but just now the private is the master of the Minister of Militia, and it is for him and those who support him in this House, if they can control the majority, to dictate what shall be done, not only by the head of the Government, but by the head of the department. However, I think a moment's reflection will show my hon. friend that, as long as the present system prevails the discipline under present regulations must be continued. I do not know, however, that it should be incumbent upon any officer to furnish a uniform in accordance with the rank he holds, I mean while he

is at the school. That entails upon him an expense which, I think, by some regulation, might be dispensed with. The suggestion made by the hon. member for Toronto (Mr. Denison), that at these schools of instruction we should revert to a certain extent to the old system, by having one common uniform during drill, might be adopted, and thus avoid the difficulties which have presented themselves to many of the officers. I was rather surprised to hear the remarks made by the hon. member for North Victoria with reference to the drill performed at the camp. I may, however, say that I am in accord with him in the view he has expressed that there is no particular object or necessity for asking the young men, particularly those in the rural sections, to appear early in the morning in order to obtain what might be termed healthful exercises in extension drill; but how he ever is to get his men under control or teach them their drill properly without beginning with what is termed squad drill is something I have not yet learned. Perhaps my hon. friend may be able to give me a practical hint which may be of benefit in the future. I shall be glad to avail myself of valuable suggestions from those who have had practical experience in raising volunteer corps. I have long been of opinion, whatever may be said of city battalions, that the battalions raised among the farmers' sons, after a very few weeks' drill in camp or in the drill shed at home, constitute the best possible force we can have. The suggestions which have been thrown out, and which I will not elaborate just now, shall have my best attention, and anything I can do to make the force more effective, consistent with the means of the department and with the revenue of the country, hon gentlemen may rest assured will be done. All it requires is money to drill the whole force, and if Parliament, if the Finance Minister can see their way clear to ask Parliament to grant \$100,000 or \$200,000 in addition to that already asked for, \$275,000, we should be enabled to place the whole force under camp during the present year. Whether the revenue of the country would justify that expenditure I am not at this moment prepared to say. I will say, however, before sitting down, that I shall devote some attention to the management, and not only the management, but the system which prevails at present in the military schools, and also in connection with the staff connected with the whole force, and if I can see my way to suggest to my colleagues any means by which efficiency can be maintained and expenditure reduced, it shall be my duty to do so.

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The Canadian Militia List, corrected to the 1st January, 1892, has just been issued by the Department, and contains the usual information.

## COL. O'BRIEN'S LECTURE.

(Concluded.)

From the existence of the Active Force under present conditions I draw another conclusion of great practical moment. I believe that as at present constituted it is eminently suited to the country. It is so inexpensive, the whole cost being less than 25 cents per annum upon each of the population, that the most severe economist cannot find fault on that score. Being a purely voluntary force, and chiefly supported by the independent yeomanry of the country, it involves no serious burden upon our industrial resources, and affects only those who willingly assume the task. The headquarters of each corps being local, it enlists in its support a variety of local interests, and the people of the locality take a pride and interest in the efficiency of the corps, and willingly aid in its support. By simply increasing the number of men per company its numerical strength can be doubled without any additional cost for officers or staff, and that strength could be kept up by regular recruiting at the various company and regimental headquarters. To increase its efficiency in drill all that is necessary is to call it out, for it has its own instructors always ready for use, and of the aptitude of the men for learning all the duties of a soldier I need say nothing. Experience has shown that it can be rapidly assembled, and rapidly mobilized. While democratic in theory, as regards the social status of its officers, the men have a wholesome sense of discipline which checks too much familiarity between them and their officers, even when the latter may be socially on the same level with themselves; and, as far as my observation goes, they most respect those officers who most respect themselves, and have a proper idea of what is due, if not to themselves, at least to the commission which they hold. But, say our critics, the force is composed of such shifting material that the men drilled one year are gone the next, and therefore the money spent upon them is wasted. To some extent this may be true, but, on the other hand, the very weak point of the system has its advantages. It keeps the military spirit constantly fermenting. It diffuses a knowledge of soldiering, however slight, through a large part of the adult population, and there is always a nucleus of drilled men existing in every corps who cling to it from pure love of it, who set an example, and give a pattern to the recruit, teach him his duties, instil into him a proper sense of *esprit du corps*, and impart an air of soldierly bearing. In every regiment there are enough of such men competent for the position of non-commissioned officers, and frequently for that of commissioned officers; enough also to take up and discharge all duties when the regiment is called out, while the recruits are being instructed. And the result is, taking the rural corps as a whole, that the

regiment can be moved from one place to another, can be put into a train and taken out of it, marched to camp, mount its guards and pickets, pitch its tents, issue and cook its rations, maintain the strictest discipline, and all the time go on with its instruction in drill in a purpose-like and business fashion, and making progress in every military duty in a manner that astonishes the officer of the regular army. Now, can anyone suggest a system better suited to the habits and ideas of the people or one that will bring about as good results from the same expenditure either of money or industry? What possible system of a small regular force, such as is suggested by some, could equal it for effective results in case of any serious difficulty? Having read the endless suggestions and criticisms which are from time to time poured forth through the press, and having, what few of the critics have, a pretty thorough knowledge of the present system, its weak as well as its strong points, of its very apparent deficiencies, and of its real capacity—the former much more plain to the eye than the latter—I have no hesitation in saying that the present force, mainly created and developed by the military spirit of the country, and mainly dependent upon it for support, has, by the very fact of its existence at the present, proved itself well suited to the country, and to the resources at its command. And I am conservative enough to believe that we shall do better to improve and develop a system which has served us well in the past, and is serving us better in the present, than in troubling ourselves with the speculations of those who are too proud to enter the present force, and who spend their military spirit in pointing out the deficiencies which we in the ranks are steadily striving to overcome.

I have spoken of the difficulties under which this force is maintained, which bear so hardly upon those engaged in it. Certainly the country, which has such a force upon such easy terms, has no right to complain. We, however, who have so long borne the burden, have the right to ask that it be made less severe, as easily it might be. The best methods of accomplishing this could not properly be discussed in connection with the subject now under consideration, but thus much may be said, that the military spirit of which we have been speaking would sustain the Government in any reasonable expenditure required to meet existing deficiencies, especially when that expenditure would go directly to the improvement of the rank and file, and not to those accessories which, however useful, are not of absolute necessity.

But it will be asked, and the question is a pertinent one, and must be answered—admitting your contention to be correct, and the existence and growth of this warlike spirit to be proved, of what value is it—what are you going to make of it? A political necessity, the conditions of

which may change at any time, compels us now to spend a certain sum upon military preparations, and in the spending of that money a few enthusiastic persons like to employ themselves in playing at soldiering. It amuses them, and it does not hurt the country; but, after all, what is it but mere pastime? The only possibility of war is one in which we should be powerless. Any attempt at resistance would be useless. We should be as a child in the hands of a giant, and immediate submission would be our inevitable lot. Now, I will not attempt to answer this question from a military point of view, though seventy-five thousand of such men as in for eight hours the Minister of Militia could put in the field simply by doubling the strength of existing companies, would, backed by the sea and land forces which ten days would bring to our assistance, be no despicable force. But as upon the answer largely depends the future of this country, I will answer it in the spirit in which it was answered by Sir Isaac Brock just eighty years ago, when, with as heavy odds against him as we could have to meet to-day, he undertook the defence of the Canadian frontier—a defence which but for his untimely death would have been more successful and glorious than it was. He did not sit down to consider whether with ten thousand men he could meet him that came against him with twenty thousand. He simply told the people of Canada that the country was theirs, and that it was their plain duty, when wrongfully attacked, to take up arms in its defence. And in a similar spirit should we answer the question to-day. If we are not prepared to defend our country and keep it ours, we should not have undertaken to make it. We should not assume national responsibilities unless we are prepared to accept the conditions with which they are connected; and by which alone they can be maintained. And till human nature is reformed, and Christianity really governs the world, preparation for self defence, and the readiness to endure all that it may impose, is the first of national necessities. We have gone too far upon the path of national progress now to draw back from the fulfilment of this obvious duty. We cannot shrink from it unless we are prepared to abandon the work in which we have been engaged—to show ourselves false to every sentiment of manhood and patriotism—unworthy of our name and race, and of all the glorious traditions of the past. There is then a legitimate field for the exercise of the warlike spirit of our people, and an absolute necessity for its careful development; and while the work is one in which all should bear a part, yet mainly upon those who, in no idle spirit of display, but with an earnest desire to fit themselves for the stern duties of the field, have undertaken the task of forming our Militia into an efficient military force, will rest the burden of showing that the

growth of a military spirit in Canada is no idle dream—that it is a real, living element in our national life and our national progress, and as essential to its complete development as any of those which it is the duty of government to foster and encourage. Acting upon such a conviction we should go manfully and steadfastly on with our work, satisfied that while engaged in a task suited to our tastes and capacities, we are also fulfilling a duty second to none in its importance and value to the country—as much of benefit to it as of credit to ourselves.

### THE NEW INFANTRY DRILL BOOK.

(Continued.—From Volunteer Service Gazette.)

Part II., "Company drill and organisation," contains the essence of the new system. We may as well give the principal "general rules" with which this part of the book begins:—

*Organisation of a company.*—In Part I. rules are given for the instruction of the recruit in his elementary duties. When he has been thoroughly grounded in squad drill, he will be drilled with his company.

The day, however, that he joins, he will be told off to the smallest fire unit (either a section or sub-section), be quartered with it, and when dismissed drill, will perform with it all guards, fatigues, and other duties as far as can be arranged.

The most effective number for a fire unit is from eight to ten men. In battalions on the peace establishment, the numbers available for exercise do not often exceed forty in a company, and thus the section, or one-fourth of the company, becomes the smallest fire unit.

In battalions that are much stronger, it is necessary to divide this command into two, hereinafter called a sub-section.

*Equalising a company.*—No equalising or mixing of companies, except for purposes of ceremony, is to be permitted, with the exceptions noted below. When there are less than eight men of a fire unit present, they should be joined to a larger body. When the fire units of a company do not in all consist of twenty men, the units should be joined to those of another company, but will retain their own organisation, irrespective of that of the company with which they act.

*Object of organisation.*—The object of this organisation is to assist the onward and cohesive movement of the company during the critical period of the attack, that is, from 500 yards up to the assault of the position. Experience shows that when their nerves are severely tried, much greater results are obtainable from soldiers of ordinary courage, who have gained confidence in each other through being accustomed to work together, than from even the bravest who have not been so trained.

*Formation and telling-off of a company.* The company will fall in in two ranks in section or sub-section column.

Whenever the number in a section exceeds fifteen men, the telling-off will be by sub-sections. The company will then be formed into half-companies, and finally as an entire company in line, and the men will be numbered from right to left of sections or sub-sections. The left-hand man of the right half-company is the centre of the company.

An interval of two paces will always be preserved between sections (or sub-sections) when the company is in line, but in no other formation will section (or sub-section) intervals be kept. Except when directions are given to the contrary, an interval of six paces will always be preserved between companies. . . .

*Officers, &c., of a company.*—The company will be commanded by the captain, and each half-company by a subaltern.

Each section and sub-section will be commanded by the senior non-commissioned officer belonging to it.

In the absence of the captain, his place will be taken by the next in rank; a similar rule will be followed within the half-company, section or sub-section.

*The captain.*—The duties of the captain require that he be allowed great independence as regards his position.

As a general rule, he will be six paces in front of the centre of his company in line, three paces in front of any column formation, and when the company is extended in a firing-line, in the best position for command. . . .

*The subalterns.*—When the company is in line, the subalterns will be three paces in rear of the centre of their half-company, if there be one subaltern only, then three paces in rear of the centre of the company. In an extended firing line, at such a distance in rear as will best enable them to superintend their men.

When the company is in section or sub-section column, the subalterns will be two paces from the centre of the outer flank of their half-companies: if there be only one subaltern, two paces from the centre of the outer flank of the company.

*Guides, markers, section and sub-section commanders.*—Section and sub-section commanders will be formed in a third or supernumerary rank two paces distant from the rear rank; the drummer in rear of the second section; the pioneer in rear of the third section. With the exceptions hereinafter mentioned, the guides and supernumeraries will conform to all orders given to the company as regards the carrying of their arms.

The four section commanders will act as guides and markers when required to do so. As a rule, the commander of a flank section of a company will act as a guide, the commander of an inner as marker, but the latter will rarely be used at manoeuvre.

In each section or sub-section a selected private soldier will be trained as leader and will take command in the absence of non-commissioned officers.

No change in the command of sections or sub-sections will take place except by the direct order of the captain. Corporals and lance-corporals not required to command their sections or sub-sections will be in the ranks.

In *line* in the absence of the colour party the left guide of the right centre company will direct on the left of the front rank, the remaining companies will march by their respective centres.

The captain will occasionally glance towards the inner flank of his company to see that the correct company interval is preserved. He should give as few commands as possible. By raising his right or left arm when advancing, the men of the company should be instructed to bring up their left or right shoulder to correct, if necessary, the interval; but all corrections should be made gradually.

In *company or half-company column* the commanders of the inner sections will act as guides on the right (or left) of the front rank.

In *section or sub-section column* commanders will lead their respective sections on the right (or left) of the front rank.

In *fours* the commander of the leading section will be on the directing flank of the leading four.

*Markers giving joints.*—Markers are never to go out unless specially ordered, and then they will always turn towards the flank of formation.

*Officers' swords, when to be drawn and returned.*—Officers will draw swords only when the men fix bayonets, when compliments have to be paid, and on occasions of ceremony.

It will be seen from the above that when battalions are on a peace footing the "section" will practically be the same as the "fire unit." The fire units, whether they be sections or sub-sections, are to be kept intact, and when the company is in line even separated from each other. We are told that the men of the company are to be "numbered from right to left of sections or sub-sections." Is there to be a second numbering of the whole company so that the men may know their places in "fours"? It might be said that such fire unit might be left to form fours by itself, but the regulations do not seem to contemplate there being more than one incomplete four in a company, which there certainly might be if each section or sub-section were kept together.

The company, "except for purposes of ceremony," falls in on parade in two ranks in section or sub-section column—*i.e.*, in column of fire "units." Bayonets are then fixed, and open order taken, and the company inspected, and the arms are examined in the ordinary way. "The company will then be formed into line." So the first section of Part II. But the General Rules quoted above say that it is first "to be formed into half companies, and finally as an entire company in line." Of course, it would be easy to *deploy* by

files from section column, first into half company column, and afterwards into line, but there are no directions given anywhere that we can see for this particular movement, except in the 42nd section of Part I., which seems to apply only to troops on the move. And the obvious method of "forming" into line to the right or left from the section column would not fulfil the prescribed condition of previously forming half companies. However, when the company has been formed in line it is to be numbered "from the right of sections or sub-sections," and proved as follows: "Right (or left) half company slope arms—order arms; right (or left) section slope arms—order arms; form fours—front; form fours—right (left or about)—front." It will then be formed with changed ranks, after which the original front will be resumed. Nothing is said about "Rifle battalions." Are they in future, we wonder, to be ordered to fix "bayonets" and to slope arms like "red soldiers"?

It will have been noticed that one of the principles of the new drill is that when a battalion is in line there will, as a rule, be an interval of six paces between its companies, and that each company, except the right centre company, which will direct, will move by its centre. When, therefore, a company is drilling alone, the instructor will state the supposed order of the battalion—*i.e.*, whether the company is a right centre company directing or a company marching by its centre. If the former, the left guide on the left of the front rank, if the latter, the centre man—*i.e.*, the left hand man of the right half company—will select points to march on when the order is given to advance. If the company is to advance by its centre, a non-commissioned officer should be posted at six paces interval from its right or left to represent the flank of the next inner company. When a company is supposed to form part of a company column, the guide on the directing flank will always move up to lead the company. The rules for retiring, either as a company in line or in column, are virtually the same as those for advancing, except, of course, that the directing guide moves to the original rear rank. In the diagonal march of a company forming part either of a line or of a column, its guide will lead in the front rank on the flank to which the movement is made. A company forming part of a company column will form into line to the left or right in the same way as formerly, except that no points will be given, and that the sections or sub-sections will open out to two paces interval as they form. If the company is supposed to be the directing company in line, and the formation is to the left, the left guide, after completing the dressing, will fall in on the left of the front rank. If the formation is to the right, the right guide, after dressing the company, will fall in on the left of the front rank. If the company is

not the directing company, whichever guide has to dress it will fall into the supernumerary rank after having done so. In the converse operation, forming into company column, the sacred "alignment" is no longer to be, as a rule, regarded; that is to say, the normal way of forming an open column to a flank will be by the companies "forming" forwards and not backwards. "Forming back into company column will only be performed on occasions of ceremony." For the former the word of command is, "Into column, right (or left), form, quick march." On the word form, the guide will take post on the outer flank of the company. If it is intended to move off at once in column, the word "forward" will follow "Quick march." The men will close the section or sub-section intervals as they form. If, exceptionally, the company is to form back, there is no important change from the directions in the old book, except that the command, "About turn" is established for "Right about turn," that the Captain does not give the word "Halt," (which, indeed, in the case of "forming" seems unnecessary), and that the guide moves up to his place in column if not there already. The directions for forming on the march from company column into line, or *vice versa*, are very simple and obvious. The sections or sub-sections of course open out in the former case, or close in the latter, during the formation. The rules are then given for a base company in a change of front in line. Here, it would seem, markers will be sometimes at least employed. When they are, they will invariably turn towards the flank of formation. Otherwise, the proceedings are the same as formerly, except that a formal change of front is never to be made by a base company at a less angle than 45°. If less is required, the flank file will be placed in the proper position by the instructor, and the company will take up its dressing upon it. The rules for a company in column changing direction, for the formation of, and movements in, fours, and for changing ranks, offer no important novelty. We are told that "Companies must always move with as large a front as the ground allows, and the interior formations of a company should, as a rule, be made by sections or sub-sections." Front may be increased from fours to sections or half companies by the rear four making half a turn inwards and doubling into their places in column. From sub-sections or sections the front may be increased to half companies by the rear sections moving into line with the leading sections, &c. A company may advance from a flank in column of half companies or sections, which will be ordered to turn to the front by their commanders. A diminution of front may then be effected by turning to a flank in fours, and wheeling to the front. A company may also move to a flank by half companies or sections. In order to clear obstacles, front may be diminished

or increased by forming half companies, sections, sub-sections, or fours, as may be necessary.

In order to resist cavalry, the caution "Cavalry!" is given by the instructor. The sections or sub-sections (if the company is supposed to be part of a battalion in line) will close on the centre of either flank. Bayonets will be fixed, and the flanks will dress back. The executive words given by the Captain are "On the centre (right or left), close; quick march; fix bayonets." The flanks may be further dressed back to form a circle if necessary. The Captain will be in rear of the centre section or sub-section, Commanders in rear of their respective commands. At the word of the instructor, "Ready," the men will come to the ready. The Captain will give the executive words for the number of volleys or rounds of independent firing, and range. The instructor then gives, "Re-form company"; the Captain, "Order arms, unfix bayonets," and, if the company was originally in line, "Section (or sub-section) interval; outwards (right or left) close; quick march." When the company has been dispersed, it will be reassembled on one of the guides (placed by the Captain) with recovered arms, facing to the front. At the word "Assemble" the men double in and form on him in their original places, under the direction of the Captain.

This is the end of Part II., "Company Drill and Organisation." The company is then instructed in "Company battle formations." As in the case of the squad, we shall leave this part of the book for the present, and shall proceed in our next number to deal with Part III., "Battalion Drill."

(To be continued.)

## Regimental News.

TORONTO.

Over four months has elapsed since the competition for the Ozowski Cup completed the drill season for 1891 of the Toronto regiments. That the members are tired with the relaxation was amply proved by the attendance at the first spring parade held by the Queen's Own and Royal Grenadiers, and it is uncertain whether either of the regiments ever turned out so strong at the commencement of any season as they did last Wednesday and Thursday nights, 30th and 31st March.

It certainly augurs well for a busy year and the competition between these old time friends and rivals will be further increased by the entrance into the arena of their little sister, the 48th, whose coming out takes place about the end of April.

The Queen's Own paraded under the command of Lt.-Col. Hamilton, 605 strong, Capts. Pellatt and Murray acting as right and left Majors, owing to the absence of Majors Delamere and Sankey.

Headed by both bands the regiment marched to Wellington street and went through the march past in column, quarter column and at the double. After which column of route was formed and a return to the armoury made via York, Queen, Yonge and King streets. Toronto people are getting more interested each year in the appearance of their citizen soldiers and the comments were particularly favourable as the various movements were sharply and neatly executed.

Capt. Mercer attended his first parade as Adjutant, and as the *Empire* says, "wore himself well."

The signal class had a preliminary practice under Sergt. Instructor Cameron while upwards of 70 recruits were being put through their facings by Sergeants Langton and Cockburn and Corp. Reeves.

### 10TH ROYAL GRENADIERS.

The Grenadiers paraded Thursday evening, 31st March, at 8 o'clock, under the command of Lt.-Col. Dawson, 418 strong, and as the night was too chilly for drill, a route march was decided on. Headed by both bands the regiment marched up Jarvis to Gerrard, to Parliament and returned to the armoury via King street, where they were dismissed. Some 62 recruits were sworn in and quite a few more are in the hands of the regimental instructors.

Although no formal discussion has been held by the officers there seems to be a tacit understanding among all ranks that Montreal will be the likeliest place to spend the 24th May.

Lt.-Col. Dawson inspected every company of the battalion and found F Co's strongest on parade, with H Co's neatest and cleanest. What struck me as a particularly good idea, was the playing of the National Anthem, before the companies were dismissed. Would that every regiment would follow the splendid example set by the Grenadiers in this respect, the effect of which must be to inspire all ranks, and emphasise the fact that true loyalty and not mere passion for display is the incentive which makes a man a member of any one of our volunteer regiments.

It has been decided that one company each week will remain in the shed and practise guard mounting, while another will be detailed for advanced guard work.

### 48TH HIGHLANDERS.

Thursday night being the "Kilties'" parade night, the regiment to the number of 250 paraded in the old Upper Canada College building under the command of Lt.-Col. Davidson.

Quite a number of recruits were sworn in and the good work of the instructors from No. 2 Co., I.S.C., is already apparent. Both the Queen's Own and Grenadiers will find in the 48th foemen worthy of their steel, and neither past work nor past reputations will avail them in the struggle

for supremacy which takes place next fall. The laurels will be well won whoever gets them, and proud as Toronto people are now of their regiments they will be much more so when they see the whole force paraded.

The results of the N. C. O.'s examinations, held by Capt. Macdougall, I. S. C., were announced and Colour-Sergts. were appointed to the different companies.

Crean & Rowan have a window full of 48th uniforms, and a very interested crowd continually gather to size up the mysterious outfit of the Highlanders.

They have also on view a picture of the "Black Watch" advancing up the heights at Alma, led by Sir Colin Campbell and Colonel Cameron. It is owned by Capt. J. Wilson Gray, of G Co., 48th, and is, so rumour says, going to occupy a position of honour in the armoury of his company.

The news of Major Macdonald's appointment to the adjutancy of the Bisley team meets with general favour, but if they keep on our English friends will be of the opinion that we keep a stock of Kilties for the purpose of supplying Commandants and Adjutants for Bisley teams. Never mind, the Q.O.R. don't begrudge their little sister its honour, but in the sweet by and bye think that they will secure either the first or second positions for one of their representatives.

#### Q. O. R. BUGLERS' SMOKERS.

During the past winter season Bugle-Major Swift and the Buglers of the Queen's Own have given a series of about twelve smoking concerts. These were tendered, in turn, to each Company in the Regiment. They have all been highly successful, and regrets are heard on all sides that they have been brought to a close. The last of the season was given Saturday evening, 2nd April, and once more the Buglers achieved a fitting success in their final efforts.

Bugle-Major Swift filled the chair most acceptably, and the following programme was rendered:—Opening overture, Buglers' Orchestra; songs by Bugler Baker, Messrs. Murdoch and Winters, J.; banjo solo, Mr. Baker; quartette, Messrs. Butler, Booze, Oliver and Stephens; horizontal bar performance by Messrs. Davis and Morgan.

The favourite of the evening was Bugler Baker, and a double encore followed each of his appearances. The "Old Oak-ken Bucket," by the Orpheus Quartette, was the treat of the evening and deservedly won a recall.

The programme concluded with a very laughable farce entitled "Judge McGinty's Court," which was planned and carried out by the Buglers. Corp. Ross presided over a docket of cases, and judge, attorneys and prisoners seemed to be competitors endeavouring to out-do one another in correctly impersonating the characters they represented. About the best of the

whole court was when a goat was arraigned on a charge of being drunk and disorderly on Yonge St. It turned out to belong to "E" Co., Q.O.R., whereupon the Judge stated that he would have to discharge the prisoner, remarking that no one ever heard of a member of that Company getting drunk on two horns.

After a hearty vote of thanks to the Bugle-Major and Buglers had been carried on Major Delamere's motion, and the singing of the National Anthem the evening's programme was brought to a close.

Among those present were noticed Lt.-Col. Otter, D.A.G., Major Delamere, Capt. Munton, Mason and Knifton, Lieuts. Wyatt, Crean, Morton, Matheson, Knight, 22nd Oxford Rifles, Sergt.-Major Spry, Toronto Field Battery.

I must tender my hearty thanks to "Maxim" for his kind information regarding the Montreal programme. I might say that the 48th Highlanders according to report will not leave Toronto this year, and as far as the Queen's Own and Grenadiers are concerned I do not think the trip to any place has been formally discussed. Both regiments have invitations from several places, but I think if left to a vote, the vote for Montreal would be an unanimous one. Of course, the main and only objection to this trip is the distance and cost, and could this be overcome it is highly probable that both regiments would spend the 22nd, 23rd and 24th May with the Montreal Brigade. I suppose Maxim has no objection to the visiting volunteers participating in the Major-General's programme. I am sure that they would relish it, and it would be comparatively easy work to what they have encountered on some of the trips.

BRECH BLOCK.

#### QUEBEC.

Quebec, 2nd April, 1892.—The officers and non-commissioned officers of the Royal School of Cavalry had a reconnaissance on the 28th March to Charlesbourg.

Lieut.-Col. Prower, Commanding 8th "Royal Rifles," exercised the battalion during the drill on Tuesday and Friday evenings with the companies formed in single rank. The regimental parade state shows a steady increase in the attendance.

At a meeting of the officers held recently, the following committees were appointed:—Annual Regimental Sports.—Capts. J. S. Dunbar, W. J. Ray, C. J. Dunn, Ed. Montizambert (Adjutant), and Lieut. Davidson. It has been decided to hold the sports on Easter Monday the 18th instant.

Concert committee.—Major G. E. A. Jones, Lieuts. J. B. Peters and O. B. C. Richardson and Paymaster H. J. Hussey. The date of holding the concert will be decided upon shortly.

A third committee consisting of Capts. J. S. Dunbar, W. J. Ray, Ed. Montizambert

(Adjutant), and Quarter-master T. H. Argue was named for the purpose of taking into consideration the probable expense which would be incurred in taking the regiment to Montreal for the review on the Queen's Birthday, and to ascertain in what manner it could best be met.

The proposed trip in question has been productive of a number of letters in the local press. Some in favour of the trip and suggesting means of providing funds to defray the expenses connected with such an undertaking and others again quite the reverse.

One letter in particular not only deals with the question at issue but branches off into a recommendation to disband all militia corps, retaining some of the permanent corps only, to be located in the principal cities. The building of arsenals in every county in the Dominion, to be fully and completely stocked with firearms, ammunition, etc, then in case of emergency armies would spring up voluntarily. Draws attention to the Levis forts, which are not utilized in any way with the exception of No. 3, which has been used for some years as a "quarantine" station for cattle. Believes in making Quebec a garrison city and that the unoccupied Levis forts should be garrisoned by the Imperial troops. In concluding this letter states that it would be better to form the nucleus of a small standing Canadian Army and that graduates of the Royal Military College would only be too pleased and willing to accept commissions therein.

Your correspondent desires to state that the College was established principally for the purpose of securing such a complete military and scientific education to young men belonging to the country as would qualify them to fill all the higher positions in the Canadian militia service, and it is a well known fact that preference has time and again been given to unqualified officers even though graduates were ready and willing to accept commissions in the permanent force. Perhaps under the new administration of the Department of Militia and Defence stricter attention will be paid to carrying out the intended object of the College.

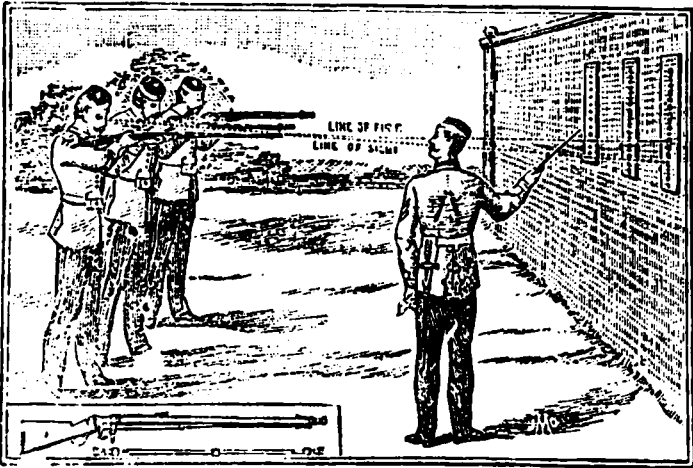
R.M.C. No. 47.

"A Short Man" writes to the *Times*, asking to have a regiment of Rifles (please note *Rifles*) of the Guard. Why Rifles? Why not Short Highlanders (if there are any), Short Fusiliers, Short Buffs, short anybody? If shortness is to be a qualification there is no occasion to confine the honour to the green jackets alone; and if shortness is not to be considered a claim, still less is there any occasion to do so. It would be easy to take in everybody, including the Rifle Brigade, and they could be divided into Horse Guards, Foot Guards, and Short Guards.—*Broad Arrow*.

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1 " " 2,500.....	2,500
1 " " 1,250.....	1,250
2 Prizes, " 500.....	1,000
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25 " " 50.....	1,250
100 " " 25.....	2,500
200 " " 15.....	3,000
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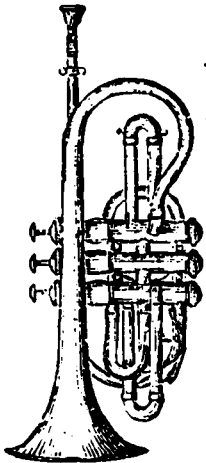
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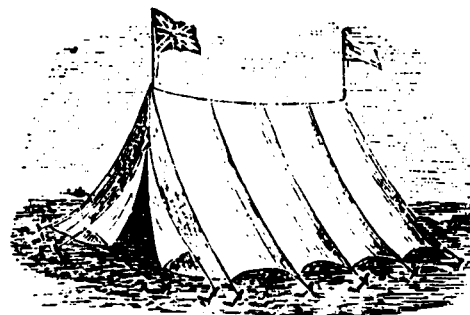
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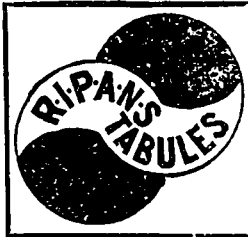


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L. VANKOUGHNET,  
 Deputy of the Superintendent-General  
 of Indian Affairs.

Department of Indian Affairs,  
 Ottawa, March, 1892.



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