

Vol. X.
No. 8

MONTREAL, APRIL 15, 1895.

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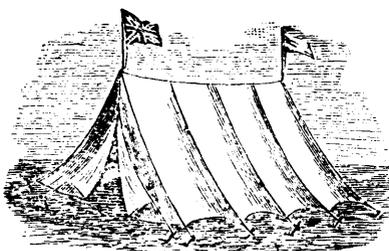
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THE CANADIAN



Military Gazette

Successor to the Canadian Militia Gazette.

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Subscription \$2.00 Yearly.
Single Copies 10 cents.

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MILITARY GAZETTE,

(Successor to the Canadian Militia Gazette.)
ESTABLISHED 1885.

PUBLISHED AT MONTREAL
ON THE
1st and 15th of each Month.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE
MILITARY FORCES OF CANADA.

SUBSCRIPTION:

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

Unpaid accounts are subject to sight draft. Remittances should be made by post-office order or registered letter. No responsibility is assumed for subscriptions paid to agents, and it is best to remit direct.

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

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All communications and remittances should be addressed to the editor, P. O. Box 1011, Montreal.

MONTREAL, APRIL 15, 1895.

Notes and Comments

It will doubtless interest many of our readers to know what the modern British blue-jacket can do in the way of artillery practice. In August last year (1894) H.M.S. "Royal Arthur" was out for quarterly firing practice in Royal Roads, opposite Victoria, B.C. The floating target was 20 feet long by 10 feet high. At a range varying from 1600 to 1400 yards, and whilst steaming 8 knots an hour, one of her guns in 3 minutes fired 18 shots, and put 14 through the target; the sister gun fired 17 shots in the same time and put 13 through the target. The guns used were 6-inch quick firing. Can any of our neighbors across the line beat that?

Masterful inactivity characterises the conduct of the department with regard to the Halifax drill shed. As our readers are aware, the Halifax drill shed was almost entirely destroyed by fire three years ago last December. Close on two years ago the Militia department purchased, and paid for, a plot to build a new shed upon, \$60,000 having been voted for the purpose of purchasing plot and building shed. Plans of the proposed new building were shown to, and approved of, by the three commanding officers, still no steps have been taken to send out the contract.

Lieut. Colonel Hood, and the whole service, is to be congratulated upon the General Order giving the gallant Colonel the rank he held on retirement from the command of the Royal Scots. Lieut.-Colonel Hood's splendid service in the Royal Scots and in connection with rifle shooting throughout the whole Dominion, entitled him to consideration, and all must agree that there is something radically wrong in the principle which would deprive an officer on the retired list of his retiring rank on returning to active service. If this precedent were allowed to stand there would be mighty little encouragement for any retired officer to enter active service again.

This perpetual hammering away at absurd and unjust appointments to the permanent force is becoming tiresome, but it appears to be necessary, nevertheless, particularly with a new minister at the head of the department. We have heard in the past nice stories about the

militia department being divorced from politics, and all that sort of thing, but we have seen commissions in the permanent force allotted to men with no further qualification than a well nursed and thoroughly developed political pull. There is a gentleman at present living in this country whose great ambition is to get into the permanent force. Although an immigrant of only recent importation, this ambitious individual has influential friends, and they are backing him up nobly. He got attached to a certain militia corps, and went in for a long course, and got ingloriously plucked. Then the political pull got in its deadly work, and he was given a special long course to qualify, getting through of course. Does Mr. Dickey propose to signalise his assumption of the control of the Militia department by sanctioning this gentleman's appointment? We have very much misjudged the honorable gentleman if he does.

Is your rifle association organized for the season; and is there a skirmishing or judging distance match on the programme?

Are the rural battalions to drill this year, or are they to be ignored completely out of existence? If they are to be given the *coup-de-grace*, by all means let it be done decently. Far better to be gibbeted in General Orders, even if the English is a little obscure and the grammar a trifle faulty, than to be starved to death.

Mr. Dickey has the chance of a lifetime. Let him insist now upon the re-armament and re-equipment

of the militia with the best rifle, the best field guns and the best equipment in the market, and he will not only earn the lasting gratitude and confidence of the militia, the very *elite* of Canadian citizenship, but he will at some future time, if he does not now, receive the grateful thanks of the whole country.

What kind of a defensible position would Canada have found herself in if that Anglo-French war cloud the other day had developed into actual hostilities? Thoughtful Canadians are beginning to admit that Canada is liable to rely too much on the strong arm which is behind the Dominion and her sister colonies.

Perhaps the most satisfactory feature of the very long speech delivered by the retiring Minister of Militia at the Montreal banquet the other evening was the evidence adduced that at last the members of the government have been hit in a vulnerable spot by the few writers in the press who criticize the government's militia policy. For years the militia has been scurvily treated by the government, and portions of the press has not been slow to keep the public informed of the fact. But somehow or another the criticisms appeared to have about as much effect upon the government as a Snider bullet would have upon the armor of an ironclad. Latterly the press has kept on pegging away in a more systematic and persistent manner, and the *Military Gazette* flatters itself that it has not been backward in the campaign. Well, this had had its effect, and to judge from Mr. Patterson's not too polite remarks concerning the press, the government at last realizes that some attention has to be paid to the critics of its militia policy. The honorable gentleman's remark about his being as impervious to criticism as the hide of a rhinoceros to the sting of a mosquito, was not graceful, and very decidedly unstatesmanlike, but was most satisfactory to the well wishers of the force as showing that the shafts of the critics of the government's militia policy had struck home. If the remaining members of the government feel as badly over the exposures of the bungles of the militia department as the retiring minister

does, we shall soon see something in the way of militia reform. So far so good.

But Mr. Patterson makes a great mistake when he takes the criticisms of the press to heart personally. The force, and critics of the government's militia policy outside of the force, recognized in Mr. Patterson a minister anxious to do his best, and who did it so far as his light went. The press knows perfectly well that the Minister of Militia has to contend with a great deal, and believes that Mr. Patterson contended with opposition manfully. As soon as the other members of the government, and also the members of parliament, become as susceptible to criticism on this point as Mr. Patterson clearly is, we may expect a minister with Mr. Patterson's good intentions to accomplish something worth talking about in the way of improving the militia. But in the meantime, does not the Minister of Militia personally assume the responsibility for the efficiency of the force? Of course he does, and we hope that Mr. Patterson's successor will bear this in mind.

Mr. Patterson's inference that the outbreak of the Northwest Rebellion found the country prepared to suppress it, and his statement that but for this preparedness the campaign might have cost \$12,000,000 instead of \$6,000,000, must have caused a full grown smile to develop on the faces of all who had any practical knowledge of the facts of the case. The very idea of a minister of militia, or anybody else, presuming to declare, even in an after dinner speech, that the force was ready for the campaign of 1885! The men and officers were ready; they always are and always will be, but they were as badly armed as any Chinese levies, as faultily equipped, and without any transport, hospital service or commissariat. Some regiments called out had not a single uniform issued. There was not one properly shod or properly clothed corps sent to the front. The ammunition was bad and the accoutrements so rotten that most of the rounds, and nearly all of the equipment, that the men should have carried had to be transported in teams. When the force returned to Winnipeg, after its

five months' campaign, the uniforms were a combination of rags and sackcloth patches. The Japanese army in China has never faced a more disgracefully equipped force. As to the expense connected with the expedition it could have been kept down at least fifty per cent. had the militia been properly organized and equipped. And the worst of it is that neither organization nor equipment have been improved since 1885.

The only really important utterance in the ex-minister's speech was his statement that the government had decided not to arm the militia with the Martini-Metford. Mr. Patterson's remark that he had not carried out the purchase of Martini-Metfords because he found that the consensus of opinion among the militiamen of Canada was unfavorable to that weapon, is another acceptable indication of the changed state of mind in the government with regard to militia affairs. But why Mr. Patterson's indignation at the protests of the force against the proposed re-armament? If the purchase of the Martini-Metford had not been fully determined upon, why did General Herbert say that it had, and why was his statement allowed to go unchallenged for so long? It does not require an abnormal amount of intelligence to see that the government was only saved from committing the biggest militia bungle on record by the outspoken protests of the very writers of the press whom Mr. Patterson ungratefully designates as "yelping curs." Meantime, the whole question of re-armament goes back to where it was two years ago, and the militia critics are left to congratulate themselves upon their good work and to contemplate the mysteries of ministerial ingratitude and ministerial surrender.

The last E. O. contains the appointment of Lieut.-Col. Turnbull to be "Inspector of Cavalry," in addition to his present duties. As this officer has been on leave for some twelve months, and as there are no instructions issued defining the duty of an "Inspector of Cavalry," it is not likely that he will die from overwork.

A number of officers have been appointed "Deputy Surgeons Gen-

eral"—whatever that may be. In the Militia Act and our R. & O. it is laid down that the ranks shall be the same in our militia as in our army. There is no such rank as Surgeon General or Deputy Surgeon General in the army. No instructions are issued as to the duties of officers, the uniform they shall wear or the relative rank they are to hold. It will be curious to note the uniform and badges of rank these officers will appear in. It may seem strange to some that with two exceptions, these Deputy Surgeons-General are permanent corpsmen. But it only goes to illustrate what has long been notorious, that the militia is run as a political machine. Militia surgeons may be under the impression that long and good service will entitle them to this promotion, but they will find, as in this instance, that junior medical officers (one even not in the active militia at all) are promoted over their heads. We would like to know under what clause of the R. & O. these appointments are made, and if the holders thereof vacate their regimental appointments.

This E. O. appears to be made up of promotions and appointments as "special cases," Major Rutherford of the Royal Canadian Artillery, getting a brevet majority, as a special case. As this officer was promoted a captain only in 1893, it is rather quick promotion. Lieut.-Col. Wilson, of the Royal Canadian Artillery, has been transferred from the command of one of the Garrison Companies to "B" Battery, and this battery made into a separate unit. The establishment list makes the strength of this battery two subaltern officers, and as its strength is but 58 men, it would seem to be "loaded up" with officers. The artillery at Quebec should now be happy with two officers drawing "command pay," viz., Lieut.-Col. Montizambert and Lieut.-Col. Wilson. Majors Gordon and Vidal, commanding Infantry Companies of the R.R.C.I. have been made Brevet Lieut.-Colonels. When these officers were made Majors a couple of years ago, it was thought to be a great injustice to other militia captains commanding companies, but now that they have been made colonels the majors will also have just ground of complaint. It seems singular that Major Drury, commanding "A" Battery, and a splendid officer, should not have got this step also.

Major Donaldson of the Militia Department seems to be fortunate. When he entered the department he was a lieutenant. When the then Minister of Militia went out, he was promoted to be a captain, now when the Hon. Mr. Patterson goes out he

is made a major. No doubt when the Hon. Mr. Dickey retires, Major Donaldson will be made a lieutenant colonel.

Captain Williams, of the London Field Battery, is allowed to retire as a major, contrary to the R. & O., but as a "special case," and Captain and Paymaster Sutherland, of the "Oxford Rifles," is given the rank of major, also as a "special case." Lieut. Darcy MacMahon, of the R.R.C.I., is permitted to retire retaining rank, although not entitled to this distinction by the R. & O.

All these promotions by brevet in the permanent corps are made, apparently, for the purpose of making these officers outrank other militia officers of practically the same grade. Lieutenants are brevetted captains, captains majors and majors lieutenant-colonels. This is a gross injustice to other militia officers. Why should a captain of a permanent infantry company command officers who are in command of battalions, if these infantry captains happened to be the senior by brevet.

It is about time there was another board of visitors appointed for the Royal Military college. The regulations require a board to report every year. In nineteen years there have been three such reports. The board as at present constituted consists of three permanent militia officers and two others not actively connected with the force. Strange as it may seem no graduate of the college has ever been placed on the board. No man has ever been a member of this board who ever attended the college as a cadet or in any other capacity. What would the Hon. Mr. Dickey think, if the Board of Trustees of Toronto University (of which he is a graduate) did not contain a member who had ever been at the university? This is the position of the Military College. We do hope that he will deal with this matter without delay.

The Hon. Mr. Patterson in his speech at Montreal, claimed credit for the large number of militiamen who obtained certificates at the schools in 1894. It should be remembered that some 140 of these were attached at the Levis camp, which camp cost some \$27,000.00. A number of others were N. C. O.'s and men of the permanent corps.

Some time ago the papers stated that the superintendent of the Quebec cartridge factory was returning from England with a lot of new machinery for the cartridge factory,

Quebec. We would like to know what kind of ammunition this machinery is intended to make. Surely the government have not purchased machinery to make cartridges for the condemned Lee-Metford rifle, and if not, for what rifle is the machinery? With a new rifle still undecided on, it would seem to be a waste of money to purchase machinery that may be useless when the new rifle is decided on.

The Chinese Naval Losses.

By the Naval correspondent of the Sunday Gazette, London.

The following statement, which I believe to be accurate, of the Chinese vessels of war destroyed or taken by the Japanese since the beginning of the campaign may be of general interest:—

1. Tsan Cheng, paddle despatch vessel, taken off Asan, July 25th, 1894.
2. Kwang Yi, torpedo cruiser, run ashore, after the battle of Asan, July 25th, 1894, and destroyed by the Japanese.
3. King Yuen, belted barbette cruiser, sunk on September 17th, 1894, during the battle of Hai-yun-Tau.
4. Chih Yuen, protected cruiser, sunk on September 17th, 1894, during the battle of Hai-yun-Tau.
5. Chao Yung, protected cruiser, rammed and sunk by her consort, the Tsi Yuen, while endeavouring to escape from the battle of Hai-yun-Tau.
6. Yang Wei, cruiser, run ashore to avoid sinking at the battle of Hai-yun-Tau.
7. Kwang Chin, cruiser, ran away at the battle of Hai-yun-Tau, went ashore, and was destroyed by the Japanese on September 23rd, 1894.
8. A torpedo-boat, taken at the fall of Port Arthur, November 21st, 1894.
9. Ting Yuen, battleship, torpedoed at Wei-hai-wei, February 4th, 1895.
10. Lai Yuen, belted barbette cruiser, torpedoed at Wei-hai-wei, February 5th, 1895.
11. Wei Yuen, training ship, torpedoed at Wei-hai-wei, February 5th, 1895.
12. Twelve torpedo-boats sunk while attempting to escape from Wei-hai-wei.
13. Ching Yuen, protected cruiser, sunk by gun-fire at Wei-hai-wei, February 9th, 1895.
14. Chen Yuen, battleship, surrendered at Wei-hai-wei, February 13th, 1895.
15. Tsi Yuen, turret ram, surrendered at Wei-hai-wei, February 13th, 1895.
16. Ping Yuen, coast defence ironclad, surrendered at Wei-hai-wei, February 13th, 1895.
17. Kwnang Ping, torpedo-cruiser, surrendered at Wei-hai-wei, February 13th, 1895.
18. Chen Pien, gunboat, surrendered at Wei-hai-wei, February 13th, 1895.
19. Chen Pei, gunboat, surrendered at Wei-hai-wei, February 13th, 1895.
20. Chen Chung, gunboat, surrendered at Wei-hai-wei, February 13th, 1895.
21. Chen Nan, gunboat, surrendered at Wei-hai-wei, February 13th, 1895.
22. Chen Tung, gunboat, surrendered at Wei-hai-wei, February 13th, 1895.
23. Chen Hsi, gunboat, surrendered at Wei-hai-wei, February 13th, 1895.

Of the above, Nos. 1, 2 and 15 were the three vessels engaged in the action off Asan; and Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 were the twelve vessels engaged in the battle of Hai-yun-Tau; so that none of the craft employed in those engagements remain in Chinese hands. The total bill of losses is twenty-two ships destroyed and twelve ships captured. On the other hand, the Japanese seem to have lost but one gunvessel (doubtful) and one torpedo-boat in the course of the operations. The estimated value of the Chinese ships, with their armaments, taken or destroyed, is £2,315,000.

News of the Service.

NOTE.—Our readers are respectfully requested to contribute to this department all items of Military News affecting their own corps, districts or friends, coming under their notice. Without we are assisted in this way we cannot make this department as complete as we would desire. Remember that all the doings of every corps are of general interest throughout the entire militia force. You can mail a large package of manuscript, so long as not enclosed in an envelope, for one cent. At any rate, forward copies of your local papers with all references to your corps and your comrades. Address,

EDITOR, CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE

P.O. Box, 387, Montreal, Que.

British Columbia.

VICTORIA, March 20.—Gen. Herbert gave the British Columbia Battalion of Garrison Artillery a chance for a decent existence when something more than a year ago he doubled the strength of the companies, which now consist of about a hundred men each. So well satisfied was the General with the use made of the opportunity thus afforded, that on the occasion of his recent, and as it seems farewell visit, he presented a silver cup for annual competition between the companies, general efficiency to be the test. The conditions have been drawn up and agreed to by the officers commanding the companies, and have been forwarded to General Herbert for his approval. Though the cup—a handsome piece of silverware, suitably engraved—is now here, the inspection just over does not enter into the competition, as nothing will be done until the General has been heard from with respect to the conditions.

The annual inspection of the Battalion was completed on Saturday, March 2, when the Vancouver company (No. 5) was put through, and the Deputy Adjutant-General has made known the marks awarded, which are as follows:—

Pos- sible	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 5.
Clothing	10	8	8.5	10
Manual and Fir- ing	20	17.5	14	20
Company Drill ..	20	16	14	19
Gun Drill	80	34	29.5	49.27
Int Economy ..	10	8	6	10
Officers Question N. C. O.'s Ques- tion	48	23	23.5	22
	72	44.5	42.5	61
		151	138	191.27
Deduct for absentees..	39	41	41	24
		112	97	167.27
				132

Lieut.-Governor Dewdney attended at the drill hall on Thursday, March 7, for the purpose of presenting the challenge shield awarded annually to the most efficient company, and this year won by No. 3. He knew it was a high honor, he said, to be the best company in a battalion like the British Columbia Garrison Artillery, for General Herbert had told him on the occasion of his last visit that the battalion was really one of the very best in the whole Dominion, and that he was very well pleased with what he had seen of it, in the school and in the armories. Knowing the General as he did, and this praise coming from him quite voluntarily, he felt that it was a frank expression of General Herbert's real opinion, and thought it only right that he should on this occasion repeat it to the battalion, of whom he had felt very pleased indeed to hear it said.

Lieut. Gregory, the officer commanding No. 3, then came forward and received the shield, which he in turn transferred to the custody of Sergt. McDougall, who proudly bore it off. At Col. Prior's suggestion the members of the other three companies took off their caps and cordially cheered their successful rivals.

The presentation of this massive challenge shield, presented by Lieut.-Colonel Prior and officers of the three Victoria companies, marks in a fitting manner the end of the year's work of the B.C.B.G.A. The shield was presented to the companies of the battalion in 1892, and is a magnificent specimen of the silversmith's art.

As to the results of the annual inspection by Lt.-Col. Peters, D.A.G., given above, it may not be amiss to explain certain details. In the first place, No. 5 company, Vancouver, which stands second, not having the necessary guns, was unable to earn any marks for the gun drill, but having the full complement of officers (five) was able to make a better showing than the headquarter companies in this particular. Absentees are what cost the latter most, and this is a great pity, as in each of the three companies twice the number of men present at inspection have performed full drills for last year, but owing to various causes have either left town or were unable to attend. No. 3 company was fortunate to be the one least affected of the three, and this good luck, together with good honest hard work, brought it out ahead of the rest. The winning company is certainly a credit to the militia of Canada, and one of which Colonel Prior may well feel proud. It is seldom that a company is found which from top to bottom—from captain to drummer—evinces so keen an interest in the work, and to be beaten by such a lot of men is, indeed, something of which the other companies need not feel ashamed. As the inspecting officer remarked after his three hours' work on inspection night: "It will take pretty good men to beat No. 3." The rivalry between the three companies has been exceedingly keen, but very friendly, and no one begrudges No. 3 its well earned victory. No. 1 held the shield during 1894, and there is no reason why No. 2 or No. 5 should not change places with No. 3 next year. All have submitted to a rigorous inspection and all feel perfectly satisfied that they have been accorded "a fair field and no favor."

No. 4 company is in process of re-organization at New Westminster, and it is expected that the roll will be complete very shortly.

VICTORIA, April 2.—Lieut.-Col. E. G. Prior, M.P., commanding the British Columbia Battalion of Garrison Artillery, was the guest of the officers of his corps at a banquet given in the palatial Driad hotel here on the evening of the 29th ult. Several retired officers, who have served under Colonel Prior, joined in the tribute to his worth and popularity, and the com-

pany included as guests the Deputy Adjutant-General, Lieutenant-Colonel J. Peters, and Lieutenant J. L. Rawstone and other officers of the Royal Marine Artillery and Royal Engineers stationed here. Needless to say, the evening was pleasantly spent. Colonel Prior a couple of weeks ago received with his present colleague, Thomas Earle, the unanimous nomination of an immense convention of Liberal Conservatives, who wish these gentlemen to again be their standard bearers in this strongly Conservative constituency. The paragraph from the MILITARY GAZETTE holding up Colonel Prior as a fit candidate for the office of Minister of Militia meets with very general approval here, the one cloud on the prospect—if it can be called a prospect—being that his corps would lose its mainspring, so to speak, were the Colonel transferred to another field of duty.

A couple of weeks ago a little tug-boat called the Verlos went out from Victoria harbor one dark night, towing a heavy barge bound for Haddington Island, 150 miles away, to get stone for the new parliament buildings. An equinoctial gale was in progress, and this with the heavy tide running proved too much for the tug, which drifted on the rocky point of Trial Island, a few miles from the harbor. Of seven persons aboard, two only escaped from being drowned, and one Engineer William Law, clinging to the towing bits all night, only to die there from exhaustion and exposure. One of the drowned was Frank Duncan, a well connected young Englishman, who being out of work had shipped as a deck hand. He belonged to the Garrison Artillery, and this brought the disaster right home to the soldier boys. The sergeants' mess had had a great entertainment in preparation for several weeks, and Engineer Law's family being left destitute they promptly announced that the proceeds would be devoted to the fund for their relief. The *Colonist* of this date says:—

"The relief fund will receive a large addition—just how much cannot yet be ascertained—as a result of the successful and pleasing entertainment presented at the drill hall last evening by the sergeants of the B.C.B.G.A. Estimating the audience at one thousand, which is probably below the mark, it will readily be seen that the public, as anticipated, showed their appreciation of the programme arranged and their sympathy for the destitute ones. The exhibition opened with an overture, 'The Army Chaplain,' from 'Black Hussar,' and physical drill under Company Sergeant-Major J. Wilson, after which came sword drill under Sergt.-Major A. Mulcahy. The Pemberton dumb-bell drill by 25 schoolboy, under Instructor J. St. Clair, followed, proving a very neat and pleasing feature. Paul de Ville's arrangement of 'The Blue Bells of Scotland' was next introduced as a cornet solo, the soloist being Bandsman W. North. Sparring by Sergeants Northcott and Handley, filed gun drill under Sergeant J. R. Langley, and a single stick exhibition by Mr. C. P. Wolley and Mr. J. St. Clair were next in order, followed by bayonet drill under

Sergeant-Major F. Holland and fancy marching by a squad of 24 under Sergt.-Major Mucahy. The programme closed with an attractive camp scene, introducing 'To the Front,' 'The King's Own,' 'Soldier's Farewell,' 'Lights Out,' and 'The Alarm, Attack and Charge,' incidental songs being contributed by Sergeants Muir, Twiss and Thomas, with chorus by the company. The exhibition was one which could scarcely have proved other than it did, a great success. On its conclusion Sergt.-Major Mulcahy, under whose supervision it was, was warmly congratulated by His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Dewdney, and also by Lieutenant-Colonel Prior, who spoke in fitting terms of the excellence of the exhibition and of the object for which the proceeds are to be devoted. The decorations of the drill hall, which were the subject of much admiring comment during the evening, reflected great credit upon Sergeant Northcott, who had in his especial care this particular and important part of the preparations."

The B.C.G.A. are to have the Easter manoeuvres which have been a feature of their exercises for the past few years, and as Lieut.-Colonel Prior, M.P., will be absent at Ottawa, Lieut.-Col. Rawstone, of the R.M.A., has kindly promised to take command.

No. 4 Company, of New Westminster, disbanded last summer, and now in process of re-organization, reports the muster roll filled, and uniforms will be issued in a few days.

Woodstock.

The annual meeting of the officers of the 22nd Battalion "The Oxford Rifles" was held on the 23rd March, at the "Hotel Oxford," Woodstock, at which there were present: Lt.-Col. Munro, Majors Hegler and Macqueen, Captains Davis (Adjt), Sutherland (paymaster), Ball, Ross, Quinn, Knight and Anderson, Lieuts. Vance and Hughes-Charles, and Asst. Surgeon Rice.

The reports of the several standing committees were presented and found satisfactory. The election of committees resulted as follows:

Band Com., Maj. Macqueen, Captains Ball and Sutherland.

Mess Com., Capt. Anderson, Asst. Surgeon Rice and Lieut. Hughes-Charles.

Regimental Com., Majors Hegler and Day (2nd Master) and Capt Knight.

The meeting shewed a spirit that is commendable on the part of the officers to maintain an efficient regiment, if such a thing is possible in so far as the rural corps are concerned under the system that has been in vogue during the past ten years. The treatment accorded to the rural Battalions during that period is enough to dampen the ardour of the most zealous officer and take the life out of the force. While anxious to avoid any action that would be unmilitary, it would not be a matter for wonder if militia officers would almost strain the regulations and orders in criticising the administration of the Department of Militia and Defence. The "Oxford Rifles" is one of the regiments that has been permitted to go without training for two years, and with no

prospects of drill for another year. The city corps on the other hand with the privilege and advantage of annual drill, are with few exceptions kept up to a high degree of efficiency, of which their sister corps in the country are proud and would emulate if only afforded an equal chance to do so. In all fairness it is not too much to ask that if annual district camps of instruction for rural corps are too costly, that they be placed on the same footing as the city corps and ordered to perform yearly drills at local headquarters. Such a change with brigade camps every third year would meet with the approval of the militia force generally, and it is likely that the commanding officer of the "Oxford Rifles" will ask the sanction of the authorities to it so far as that battalion is concerned.—COMMUNICATED.

Stratford.

Stratford military men have just awakened from their long winter's nap, and begun to wonder what the coming season will bring forth. Doubtless it will be one of the best we have had for many years. Last October, No. 1 Company organized and established a Sergeant's mess in very comfortable quarters in a central part of the city, and already this organization has shown itself to be a great benefit to the company.

No. 1 is at present full strength, and a noticeable feature is, that the members are of better physique and also are a more respectable class of men, than we have had for many years. It is the intention of the officers to drill both in the spring and fall, and the men are anxious to go to camp this year, as in all probability it will be the last the regiment will go into as the question of city corps is being strongly agitated. It is expected that No. 4 company of Listowell will be transferred to Stratford, and the two outside companies will be in St. Marys. There is no doubt if this comes to pass it will be a great success, as four companies may be easily supported in Stratford.

The remainder of the Stratford companies are also in better shape than they have been for many years. There has been in the neighborhood of nine or ten non-coms. who have taken a course at the military schools during the past winter.

The two St. Mary's companies held a military entertainment recently, which goes to show that the old military ardour is being aroused in that town. The bugle band from Stratford, a new organization in connection with the battalion, took part in the night's proceedings.

Without doubt the battalion will be in a very presentable condition at the end of the coming season.

In closing I might say that the drill shed in Stratford is a disgrace to the regiment, as there is no floor in it of any kind and it is almost impossible to do any drill in it till the latter part of May, and during the winter it is simply uninhabitable. Now the impression here is that this battalion deserves better treatment at the hands of the Militia Department, and as a couple or three drains through the place would at least drain the water off, and al-

low the companies to get to work in seasonable time in the spring, surely such a small, but urgent request should be recognized by the department.

[Doubtless it will—In the course of two or three years.—Ed.]

Hamilton.

Order No. 12. By general order No. 14 of the 2nd inst., it was announced that the 13th Batt. stood highest in the efficiency competition in this district and was thus the winner of the Gzowski Cup.

Read at the first parade of the 13th Battalion on Friday, March 29th, was the cause of much quiet rejoicing—too long a time having elapsed since the close of the competition to cause the men to feel loudly jubilant.

The Battalion was commanded by Lt.-Col. Moore, who at the close of the parade addressed the Batt. and extended the thanks of the commanding officer to every officer, non com. and men for his work last fall.

The men seem anxious to get down to drill, there being a splendid turnout for the first parade.

"B Co." held their annual smoking concert at Newports on Thursday evening, March 28th, and as is usual with this efficient company when they do anything, they do it well. Captain Labatt occupied the chair, and the members of the staff present were Lieut.-Col. Moore, Major McLaren, Major Mason and Surgeon Rennie. A distinguished visitor was Lieut.-Col. Hood, of the Prince of Wales Rifles, Montreal.

Amid songs, recitations and speeches, a most enjoyable evening was spent.

The following contributed to the programme: E. Evans, Sergt. Major Higgins, A. Gartshore, J. Taylor, H. E. Bull, W. Dolman, Capt. Labatt, J. Lordlow, W. Robinson, Lieut. Powers, Pte. Jennings, J. Jardine and others. "Lights out" was sounded shortly after midnight.

Wentworth McKenzie celebrated his first parade as a sergeant by inviting the boys of his company, "Co. F," to Kirmess Music Hall, where amidst songs, recitations, smoke, etc., a glorious evening was spent.

The annual meeting of D. Co. took place in the orderly room on Thursday evening, March 28th, Captain F. B. Ross presiding.

The meeting was large and very enthusiastic, as this company not only secured the highest marks in the Gzowski competition for the 13th Batt., but also in the district.

The following officers were elected:—President, Captain Ross; Vice-President, Lieut. Fearman; 2nd Vice-Pres., Col. Sergt. Harvey; Sec'y-Treas., Corp. Reynolds; Trustees, Lieut. Fearman, Sergt. R. L. Smith; Auditors, Ptes. Taylor and Kerr; Rifle Committee, Sergts. Smith, Marris, Corps. McLennan, Davies, and Pte. Ogilvie.

The company decided to have their annual outing on July 1st and will visit either Orilla or Pt. Dover, leaving on

Saturday afternoon and returning Monday night.

The sergeants of the 13th gave a very enjoyable concert and entertainment to the inmates of the asylum on Wednesday evening, March 27th.

There was a good turnout of the Hamilton Field Battery at their first parade on Thursday evening, April 4th.

The 13th Battalion held their second drill of the season on April 6th. There was a good turnout, 300 men being on parade. Lieut. Col. Moore, in the absence of the commanding officer, Lieut. Col. Gibson, took command.

Major McLaren took the regiment for a march out, and on returning to the hall, put them through a number of very interesting battalion movements.

On the occasion of the Queen's Own visit here on May 24th, the 13th will troop the colors and will commence practising it right away.

Kingston.

KINGSTON, April 9th.—Spring has been long in making its appearance, and in consequence the season's first battalion drill of the 14th P.W.O.R. has been deferred until the weather becomes warmer and the drill-shed is in a fit condition for a battalion parade—that is, when the men will be enabled to fall in in the shed without having to wade more than ankle-deep in water. It is high time that a new drill shed were provided for Kingston's citizen soldiery, and the militia authorities are well aware of the fact. But, as if to discourage those who are already members of the battalion, and to prevent others from joining, the present ram-shackle, tumble-down, disgraceful old ruin is not even repaired, but is left to moulder away, and to be pointed out to visitors to the city as a monument to the deadly apathy which seems to be characteristic of the department.

While the regiments in other cities and towns have been drilling for some time, the 14th must stand idle, waiting for the water to evaporate and the mud to dry up from off the floor of their "drill shed!" (sic). Were it not for the fact that the men of the battalion are a great deal more ready to "put up with" neglect than those of any other corps in Ontario, perhaps, the regiment must have gone to pieces long ago. Of course the officers must be given credit for keeping their men interested in and zealous about their work, but it is safe to say that if it were not for the innate love of "soldiering" that characterizes the youth of this city and district, and that has been a prominent trait in the characters of their forefathers for generations, they would never have submitted to the neglect which has been their portion from the militia department for so many years.

It is pertinent to ask whether the member of the Commons for this city is aware that the drill shed is in such a disgraceful condition? And it might not be amiss for some one to remind him that a large

number of the electors of Kingston are members of the 14th, or have brothers or sons in the battalion. The House will soon meet, and Mr. Metcalfe should be asked to use his influence to obtain justice for the 14th. A general election will follow the session, and if matters are not set to rights in the meantime, those who are interested—and what good citizen is not?—should retaliate by neglecting to vote for the government that so persistently and wilfully neglected them.

The Queen's Birthday celebration committee has given \$200 to the officers of the 14th towards the entertainment of the regiment, which becomes the guest of the 14th and of the city on the 24th.

It is probable that the Royal Grenadiers of Toronto will be invited, at least public opinion is strong in favor of that gallant corps. The men of the 14th are particularly desirous of having their red-coated comrades from Toronto visit them, and if the "Fighting Tenth" should come to Kingston, they may confidently rely upon a royal reception from both soldiers and citizens.

A visit to this city would prove more than interesting to the Grens. The old fortifications—the old fort and the Martello towers—and the Royal Military College and the Tete du Pont barracks, are worthy of inspection by all military men, and the trip from the Queen City is an exceptionally pleasant one.

No programme for the day has yet been arranged by the committee which is charged with the management of the military display, and which is composed of Lt.-Col. Cotton, D.A.G., Maj. Drury, of "A" Battery; Majors L. W. Shannon and J. S. Skinner, of the 14th; Major Drennan, of the Kingston Field Battery, and Lt.-Col. Hunter, of the 47th Battalion. It is altogether probable that the display will include the firing of the salute and the feu de joie, probably trooping the colors, a few field movements and the march past, after which the visitors will be given the remainder of their time to "do" the city.

The members of "C" Company, 14th Battalion, held their annual supper at the British America Hotel on the evening of March 28th. About thirty-five members of the company were present. Among the invited guests Lieutenant Sutherland, of "F" Company; Lieut. Cunningham, of "A" Company, and "Vedette," of the Kingston News. Letters were read from Lt.-Col. Smith, Maj. Shannon, Capt. Kirkpatrick, and Capt. Joyner, expressing regret at their inability to attend.

Color-Sergt. J. Cannon presided, and the vice-president's chair was occupied by Corporal G. Ferguson. The supper was a thorough success, and a highly satisfactory time was spent. The usual toasts were duly honored, and different members of the company contributed songs, recitations, and instrumental selections. A presentation to Private R. Anglin, of a pair of silver cross-guns, offered by "Vedette" to the recruit who made the highest aggregate at the annual target practice last season.

The non-commissioned officers and men who have been attending the short course of instruction at the Tete du Pont barracks, have completed the course, been examined, and taken their departure. The results of the examinations will not be known for some time yet.

The band of the 14th will take part in the celebration of the grand Easter mass in St. Mary's Cathedral on Easter Sunday.

The Cadets at the Royal Military College were given practical instruction in sub marine mining, etc., last week, by Sergt.-Major Birtles.

The men of the 14th and 47th battalions, and of the 4th Hussars, who have been attending the short courses of instruction in infantry and cavalry drill at Stanley Barracks, Toronto, have returned home, having completed the courses.

VEDETTE.

Toronto.

The drill season for 1895 may now be considered as being in full swing and each regiment looks forward to a brisk and successful year.

The spirit of prophecy seems to be abroad and while as yet no foundations can be obtained for many of the rumors that are flying around, those who ought to know predict that quite a few material changes will take place in one at least of our city corps before the present year terminates.

The new Drill Hall is fast becoming tenanted, and were it not for the delay which the Horse Show will occasion, the end of April would see all the regiments commencing to feel somewhat at home.

The building already shows signs of wear as after the first night's parade of the Q.O.R. several bricks fell in the west gallery, fortunately at a time when no person was in the hall. The bricks fell from between the rafters, caused, so some say, by the absence of any bracing of the end walls. This necessitated the closing of the galleries to the spectators, who were compelled to occupy positions on the ground floor, to the discomfort of some of the companies of the Q.O.R. especially, who from the size of the last two parades, required every inch of space the hall could afford.

The initial parades of the Q. O. R. and Royal Grenadiers proved to be the last that either of these regiments will have from the old shed.

The Q.O.R. paraded on Wednesday evening, 27th March 645 strong, and prior to marching out were addressed by Lt.-Col. Hamilton, who briefly referred to old quarters that they were about to vacate and expressed a hope that the success which had attended the regiment in the past would follow them to their new domain.

The band then played "Auld Lang Syne" after which both doors were thrown open, and the right half battalion

moved out of the east door, the left half leaving by the west.

The half battalions meeting at Front and West Market were joined by the bands and proceeded via Church, Carlton, Yonge and Queen streets to the new Drill Hall, where after a half hour of company drill, rifles and side arms were deposited in the company armouries. The regiment was then marched back, as one man jocularly remarked "like prisoners of war" to the old shed, where the parade was dismissed after instruction had been given for all future parades to form up at the new Drill Hall.

The programme of the Royal Grenadiers was somewhat similar, although their first parade did not take place until Thursday the 4th inst.

The regiment paraded 525 strong in review order and prior to marching out were photographed by flash light. A few short remarks were made by Lt.-Col. Mason, who said in reference to their new quarters that he hoped to see the men make use of the new armouries and such arrangements made that these would be supplied with papers and magazines, and in short conducted as company messes.

"Auld Lang Syne" was rendered by the band, after which the regiment moved off with bayonets fixed, and colors flying and proceeded via Jarvis, King, Yonge and Queen streets to the Drill Hall, where they left their accoutrements in the quarters assigned to each company. All future parades form at the Drill Hall.

The 48th Highlanders, so far are only using the Drill Hall for drill purposes, and seem loth to leave the very pleasant quarters they possess in the old Upper Canada building.

This is not to be wondered at, as never again will they enjoy the facilities that have been theirs since they took possession.

Although early in the season, both the Q.O.R. and Highlanders have definitely decided as to the places they will visit next 24th May. The Highlanders have decided to go to Windsor in response to a very generous invitation, which carried free transportation with it, and the Q.O.R. will spend the 24th in Hamilton, leaving their and going into camp at Niagara for the Saturday and Sunday following.

This plan met with more favor than a one day trip, which is by no means popular with the men, and the 24th, falling on a Friday, make a good chance for the taking advantage of Saturday and Sunday.

It is rumored that Lt.-Col. Gibson intends handing over the cares of a battalion commander to his subordinate and if the 24th of May happens to be the occasion of this gallant officer's last appearance it will be most fitting that it takes place in company with the regiment, as a member of which he first donned the soldier's uniform.

As a graduate from the ranks of "K" Co. Q.O.R., he has certainly, and now as commander of a regiment that defeated his old corps, appearances do not look as if the change caused any alteration.

The spring series of the Regtl Basket Ball Assn. of the 48th Highlanders has turned out to be most successful, the final game taking place on Thursday evening, 4th inst. The contest lay between "A" Co. and a team from the Buglers, and was the most exciting of the series, no goals being scored when time was called. On agreement by the captains the teams played for an additional twenty minutes, but as no goals were scored a further fifteen minutes' game was agreed upon. One minute from time, Corpl. Shand scored for "A" Company. The buglers, nothing daunted, resumed play, and, amid great excitement, Bugler Selby scored a beautiful goal from mid-field, thus equalling the scores. Time being called immediately afterwards, the game was declared drawn. The teams will meet again on Tuesday, the 16th. Professor Williams, of the University gymnasium, kindly acted as referee, as he has done on previous occasions, to the satisfaction of all. The regimental team is open to challenges from other teams, regimental teams being preferred.

The Morris Tube Range of the Q.O.R. Sergeants is productive of quite a little interest in rifle shooting, and a nice little competition is going on among the members of the mess for some valuable prizes which have been donated.

The other day the agent of the Monarch Cycle Company called at the mess to inspect the range. As being an old Montrealer and an old volunteer, he yet displays considerable interest in matters military, and being impressed with the training the Morris Tube shooting can give a young shot, offered one of the Monarch wheels as a prize for a competition open to the regiment.

The competition commences on Monday evening, the 15th inst., and the bicycle, which by the way was sent to the Mess Rooms a couple of hours after the offer was made, will be awarded to the competitor making the 10 highest scores over the 200, 500 and 600 yard ranges between the 15th April and 15th June.

At one at least of the many company dinners held during the winter months, is a typical song given by some members of the city corps and the following, which was written and sung by one of the Q.O.R. at the combined dinner of H. Co. Q.O.R. and H. Co. 48th, strikes me as having the call for the past season.

MY KICK.

Air "Sweet Marie."

I am not going to sing of Sweet Marie,
In case you'd take a notion to kill me;
The tenor of my song the Colonel may think wrong,
But it speaks the mind of many here with me.
We're a jolly lot of boys, with our troubles and our joys,
And are satisfied that we would nappier be,
If we would shake the Gzowski Cup,
And give the blamed thing up,
Much less cursing in our ranks then there would be.
It has caused much woe and pain,
That we do not want again,
And good men leave our ranks for it you see,
They don't want to drill to death,
Or to mortgage all their breath,
For the sake of the Cup given by Gzowski.

The Thirteenth won it by a quarter of a point,
Which perhaps puts our pride a little out of joint;
We are second we have heard,
While the Highlanders are third,
However, tho' that is not quite the point,
In Heaven, believe me, more Queen's Own men
ther'll be,
If the Gzowski Cup is dropped now as a sell;
But should the strife continue, now what I say is
true,
The majority of them will be in—
For it helps drive them to drink,
And they of evil courses think,
And other wickedness they ne'er thought of before,
Let the 13th fill their cup, and drink its contents
up.
And keep the d— thing now and overmore.

RUN.

The Capture of Batoche.

A large meeting of the members of the Batoche column, or right division, of the North-West field force of 1885, was held in the new armoury, Tuesday evening, to arrange for a celebration of the tenth anniversary of the capture of Batoche. It was decided to hold a smoking concert in some public hall, when all officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of every corps that composed the above column will be heartily welcome. It was also decided to try and arrange for the co-operation of the regiment and bands of the Royal Grenadiers on Decoration day, which this year falls on Sunday. In this way the ceremony of decorating the graves of those who fell during the fight will be even more interesting and imposing than in times past. The following committee was appointed to complete arrangements:—Chairman, Major F. F. Manly; secretary, ex-Sergt. H. R. Allen; treasurer, Lieut. A. Curran; and ex-Staff Sergt. R. Hazelton, Sergt. W. G. Fowler, ex-Corpl. J. Reid, and ex-Private George Croucher. This committee will meet at the new armoury at eight o'clock on Saturday evening next. A general meeting will be held at the same place on Tuesday evening, the 23rd inst. All who were members of the column are cordially invited to be present.

Quebec.

QUEBEC, 6th April, 1895.

The Grand Variety Concert given by the Royal Canadian Artillery by permission of Lieut.-Col. Montizambert and officers of the regiment, in the Academy of Music on the evening of the 25th of March, proved very enjoyable. The programme included music, feats of strength, boxing, fencing, club swinging, etc.

The third lecture of the season was given on the 26th March in the rooms of the Royal Canadian Artillery Institute, by Captain R. W. Rutherford, R. C. A., the subject being "Coast Defence." Lieut.-Col. C. E. Montizambert was the chairman and introduced the lecturer. The preparation by Captain Rutherford of his paper must have entailed considerable time and work, as the subject was treated very fully, and although technical in every respect was such as to benefit all who take an interest in the military profession. Among others present were noticed:—Lieut.-Col. C. E. Montizambert, Major A. Farley, Captains, V. B. Rivers, T. Benson, J. A. G. Hudon, J. A.

Fages, W. E. Inlah and Messrs. H. C. Thacker, Henri A. Panet, and J. H. C. Ogilvy of the Royal Canadian Artillery, Major H. C. Sheppard, Major C. Lindsay, R. L., Mr. Francis Joseph Dixon, U. L., Hon. Corresponding Secretary of the Canadian Military Institute, Toronto, Captain Ernest F. Wurtele, R. L., Messrs. A. A. Bartlett and A. G. Peake of the P. E. I. Battalion, of Gar. Artillery.

On the 30th ult., the officers, N. C., officers and men of the Artillery Branch of the service, who had been in attendance for a short course of instruction with the Royal School of Artillery, left for their respective homes.

In the month of December last whilst workmen were employed in making repairs in the interior of the present military store house, the remains of thirteen American soldiers of Gen. Montgomery's army, who were killed in the attack of Quebec, Dec. 31, 1775, were unearthed. They were placed in a suitable coffin and reinterred under the flooring of the same building.

During the recent visit of the Hon. J. C. Patterson, who was then Minister of Militia and Defence, the two young daughters of Mr. G. M. Fairchild, Jr., obtained his permission to place a tablet to mark the last resting place of the thirteen American soldiers, the cost of the tablet being met by subscription among the American friends of the young ladies above mentioned. It is contemplated that the tablet will bear the following inscription:

"Beneath this tablet repose the remains of thirteen American soldiers of General Montgomery's army, who were killed in the assault on Quebec, Dec. 31st, 1775. Placed to their memory by several American children."

The local militia force is to be congratulated on the fact that they are in possession of a plank walk leading from the Grand Allee to the Drill Hall. This was a much needed improvement, as can be amply testified to by those who have had occasion to go to the hall during the past few years. Doubtless this is due to the energy of the efficient caretaker, Sergt. Genest, who succeeded in having the same placed in the fall, and which is duly appreciated at the present time. It is anticipated that other improvements will be in order, such as the white washing of the ceiling and rafters, which would materially improve the body of the hall. The flooring of the hall would also prove acceptable as it would mean the removal of the guns which now occupy much space which should be devoted to the Infantry. There is one improvement which is desirable to have at once, the placing of a telephone in Sergt. Genest's quarters. The advantages of so doing are so great and self evident that it is wondered that the matter has not been attended to long ago. Let us hope that the merits of the able caretaker will be considered, as well as the advantages to be derived by all those that are in touch with military matters. The expense is trifling and should not be

allowed to stand in the way of efficiency.

Major J. Secretan Dunbar, of the 8th R. R., has returned to duty after an absence of a few days in New York City.

Mr. F. A. O'Farrell, of the 87th Battalion, is attached to letter F Company of the 8th Bn. for the period of their annual training.

The 8th Royal Rifles will commence their church parades on the 21st inst. It is expected that the regiment will march out on Good Friday.

A board of officers will assemble at the drill hall on the 12th inst., for the purpose of reporting upon the loss by fire of two rifles.

Recent promotions in the regiment have been as follows:

Letter "B" Company, to be Corporal Private Alex Bullock, vice D. McCarthy granted his discharge.

Letter "D" Company, to be Lance-Sergt., Corporal C. E. Brodie.

Letter "F" Company, to be Lance-Sergt., Corporal J. Norton, vice Presho, promoted.

To be Corporal, Private Pratt, vice Norton, promoted.

To be Corporal, Private Young, vice Phillips, retired. PATROL.

Montreal.

It begins to look as though the projected Queen's birthday review in Montreal may fall through. No decision has been arrived at as to the nature of the parade and the suggestion does not appear to have met with such enthusiasm as might reasonably have been expected.

Lieut.-Col. Houghton, D.A.G., of the Fifth Military District, has been confined to his room for several days suffering from a severe cold.

A bowling match between the Reserve Association and the Sergeants, to take place this week, is the sensation of the hour at the Victoria Rifles Armory.

The Royal Scots non-commissioned officers have made great preparations for their annual ball, which is to take place Friday evening.

Sgt. J. Broadhurst, of the Royal Scots, is now the first waiting man for the Bisle Team and has been notified by the secretary of the D.R.A. to hold himself in readiness.

Major C. E. Gault is retiring from the Royal Scots on account of pressure of business. Major Blaiklock will now get his regimental rank. The company officers of the Royal Scots have been posted for duty as follows: A Co., Captain Carson and Lieutenant Campbell; B Co., Captain Simms and Lieutenants Miller and Evans; C Co., Captain J. Ibbotson and Lieutenants Meighen and Oliver; D Co., Captain Cantlie and Lieutenants W. A. Cameron and Burns; E Co., Captain Browne and Lieutenants Armstrong and Mackie; F Co., Captain George Cameron and Lieutenants Forbes and Adair.

Lt. Col. Strathy, commanding the

Royal Scots, has presented a cup for competition, between the companies this drill season. The company in the battalion winning most points for drill at the efficiency competition gets the cup. Majors Ibbotson and Blaiklock are giving cups for the companies of the respective half battalions attending drill most regularly.

All of the local battalions are hard at work at their annual drills. The attendance so far has been good in the Victorias, and in the other battalions fair.

The Adjutant-General.

To the Editor *Canadian Military Gazette*:

SIR, - The present seems a proper time to make the suggestion to the authorities that the long and distinguished public services of Col. Walker Powell should receive official recognition. As father of the Canadian Militia he gave to the existing force its first semblance of order. Since then, during these thirty-five years, he has quietly and unobtrusively, but efficiently discharged his duties. Why the extraordinary success which crowned his efforts as an organizer during the rebellion of 1885 was not then officially recognized, is a matter I have never been able to understand. That without a central directing power at headquarters the whole expedition would have been a miserable failure is undeniable. That Col. Powell was that guiding spirit is absolutely true. Ten years have elapsed since these stirring times, yet Col. Powell is still at the helm. It is not too late to recognize his past worth and truest merit. Will not the volunteers of Canada unite in urging the government to recommend him for the K.C.M.G.? No more gallant knights or true soldier ever wore spurs. Sir Walker Powell would be a title worthily won and honourably borne. Let each man write the Minister of Militia personally asking that on the Queen's birthday of this year he may have the pleasure of seeing the announcement of Col. Walker's preference. I will do so for one.

Yours truly, MILES.
Lindsay, March 29th, 1865.

Correspondence.

To Editor CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE,

Last summer I saw the Maxim gun, owned by a Montreal corps, I forget which, at Ottawa, on the occasion of the Dominion Rifle Association matches, and was an admiring spectator of the effect, moral and otherwise, of a fusilade from it, at the targets, and ever since, I have been wondering why more of the city corps of the Dominion, and some of more well-to-do rural corps, did not make an effort to provide themselves with one.

There is no doubt in my mind of the immense advantage that would accrue to a corps armed with one of these guns; for instance, when a "spurt" of quick and accurate firing was needed, and the need nearly always arises in some part of an action, you have a gun capable of firing, say 600 shots per minute, manipulated by a first class shot (no other should be allowed to handle the gun)

and on the other side, a battalion of 300 with perhaps the half of them only, good shots and perhaps quite a number of these unable, through excitement, &c., to "hit a barn." The advantage will therefore be seen of one machine gun doing the firing of two battalions, to say nothing of the moral effect of the tremendous rattle produced.

Why does not the government wake up and provide a dozen or so of these guns, and serve them out to corps in the large cities, or even keep them in store for an emergency, and not be obliged to go to a foreign country to purchase them (of an inferior quality) when the necessity arises, as it did, at the outbreak of the 1885 Riel rebellion. Hoping you will be able to find space for this, and that it may have the effect of calling attention to the necessity for action along these lines,

I am, JAVAITCH.

Ottawa, Ont., 13th March, 1895.

The Dinner to Mr. Patterson.

The banquet tendered to the Hon. J. C. Patterson, ex-Minister of Militia, by the officers of the Montreal force on March 28th, was on the whole a success. There were one or two dreary rows of empty chairs, but there were enough officers and civilians present to show that Mr. Patterson has many warm friends in Montreal and his reception was most cordial. The speeches, at least some of them, were a trifle lengthy, tedious almost, but some interesting things were said. The militia officers confidently expected some reference to the Montreal infantry school scheme but they were doomed to disappointment.

Mr. Patterson concluded his lengthy speech with a patriotic little peroration: "Some people talk of the continent to which we belong. We belong to no continent, although geographically we are the larger and better half of the North American continent. From a political geographical point of view we belong to the empire which is a portion of every continent, for in the words of Kipling:

Take hold of the wings of the morning
And flap round the world till you're dead,
You can ne'er get away
From the time that they play,
To the blooming old rag overhead.

Tiger Hunting.

The season for tiger hunting begins in April and lasts until the monsoon. During this time it is intensely hot. Water-courses fail, springs go dry, pools evaporate. Then wild beasts of all kinds leave those remoter tracts to which they retire at other seasons, and gather about drinking places in foothills and jungly lowlands. In beating for a tiger the start is never made early in the day. This creature, whose structure forms an unequalled mechanism for offence, possesses little endurance in the heat of the sun, supports thirst very badly, and soon breaks down from scorched feet if harried by day. Therefore, when its lair is found, sportsmen wait until the sun rises high before going out. Their hunt is almost certain to be among those ravines where the tiger always lies up, and not unusually until the last extremity will he break out into the burning plains. Still tigers are not organic machines made to act by instinct in an invariable manner. Some will assault at sight, others skulk and dodge through nallas for a long period before the beaters and will not attack until wounded. No human being who has not seen a tiger fight can conceive what their charge is like.—*Outing for April.*

The Defeat of the Somalis in British East Africa.

The following description of an engagement between a few Europeans and an army of Somalis, in British East Africa, is well worth perusing, and reminds one more of the fantastic heroes of the author of King Solomon's Mines, than of the deeds which men of ordinary flesh and blood are ever called upon to perform. Canadians will be the more interested in this account from the fact that Captain Dugmore, the principal actor in the drama, was at one time in Canada, having served with his regiment the 100th Royal Canadians on the American frontier during the Fenian Raid.

The two recent decisive engagements fought on the river Tana in defence of the three mission stations, English (Methodist), German, and Swedish-American, and resulting in the complete defeat on each occasion, of the Somali invaders by an absurdly small European force, possess a special interest as being the first occasions on which the much vaunted Mannlicher rifle, the present regulation small-arm of the Austrian Service, has been used in actual warfare. The remarkable results obtained at Mataloni on October 12 and 13, and at Kul'essa on October 26, are considered by competent judges as to be mainly due to the excellence of this weapon, which is pronounced by all who have handled it to be the *ne plus ultra* of a military arm—the simplicity and perfection of its mechanism, the rapidity of its action, its smokelessness, and its very flat trajectory, leaving nothing to be desired by the most fastidious of experts.

The circumstances of the military operations in question were not a little singular, it having seldom occurred that so great responsibility has suddenly fallen upon the shoulders of a British officer, when acting to all intents and purposes as a mere private individual. It appears that at the moment of the invasion Captain Dugmore, late of the 64th (Prince of Wales') Regiment, and lieutenant of the Royal Naval Reserve, chanced to be shooting big game at Merefano on the Tana, accompanied by an ex-petty officer of the Austrian Navy named Thomas, who was attending him in charge of his guns and camp equipage. On October 12 he was unexpectedly joined by Mr. Remington, the Postmaster-General of British East Africa, who was likewise on sport intent. These gentlemen had not been together half an hour when an urgent message arrived from the German missionaries at Ngao, begging for instant assistance against imminent attack of Somali raiders. Of course there was an end to all hunting plans, and the combined shooting party made all haste the same evening down the river to Ngao, where they found the Somali had already assailed some of the missionaries, un-

fortunate dependants and *protégés* within sight of the station, and had carried others off into slavery—including the favourite wife of the poor old king of the Wa-Pokomos, a peaceable tribe supposed to be under British protection. After these exploits the enemy, 200 strong, had gone a short distance down the river to rest before crossing the stream to attack either the English station at Golbanti or the German station at Ngao, their camp being about midway between the two places.

With the aid of Mr. Remington, the only representative present of civil authority, and assisted by the German missionaries, whose influence with the natives is deservedly great, Captain Dugmore at once got together a little emergency force, consisting in all of five Europeans and twenty-four natives. The natives were armed only with spears and bows and arrows, and belonged to a race so mortally afraid of the Somalis that it was hopeless to use them for any purpose except scouting—even that they would not do at any considerable distance from their European protectors. With this skeleton army it was out of the question to think of acting on the defensive, the two stations being several hours apart, and it being impossible to ascertain which would first be attacked, though it appears, from information subsequently retained from recaptured prisoners, that Golbanti was the objective point decided upon. Moreover, the station at Ngao, on which much German money has been expended was quite untenable, covering, with its large dependent native town, a great deal of ground, no part of which was enclosed at all, even by the lightest of fences.

Captain Dugmore, regarding therefore instant action, if any, as imperative, decided to boldly take the initiative and to anticipate the enemy's intentions by attempting a midnight surprise of his camp. Embarking his little force of twenty-nine all told, in four native boats, he proceeded noiselessly down the river to a point a quarter of a mile above the Somali camp, and there disembarking marched overland through high crops and tangled jungle to a projecting angle of a belt of forest bordering the river just opposite the enemy, but with no opening through which they could be seen excepting one very small one immediately in face of their extreme left. Distributing his spearmen through the wood on look-out duty, since, had the Somalis, who are expert swimmers, crossed the narrow stream (very shallow after the drought) unobserved, he must have been quickly outflanked and destroyed, fighting in the pitch darkness of the forest being hopeless work for Europeans.

Captain Dugmore opened fire on the unsuspecting foe from the gap in the foliage at fifteen minutes after midnight. The grass on the opposite bank was so high that nothing was to be seen but an occasional white loincloth gleaming in the moonlight; but, fortunately, the enemy were so closely packed that, after their

precise position had once been ascertained, and bearings taken on trees standing out against the horizon and on other landmarks, the rapid rifle fire told in most unexpected fashion. A charge attempted, heralded by savage yells, was promptly checked, and, after having, in only seven minutes' firing, lost one-fourth of their number in killed and wounded, it was a case of *sauve qui peut*, all their plunder being left behind them on the ground. Besides spears, shields, and similar articles, four of their prisoners were recaptured and thus rescued from lifelong slavery. One of these, a woman, had a flesh wound from a Mannlicher bullet through the thigh, of which, however, she made very light indeed. The night was so still and calm that nothing could have been done after the first round without smokeless powder. The execution done, showing 50 per cent. of hits with the ammunition expended, was the work of only three of the Europeans—Captain Dugmore, Mr. Remington, and Mr. Thomas; the other two—a missionary, who confined himself to keeping the spearmen in order, and a newspaper correspondent of Socialist proclivities, who afterwards, at the unanimous request of all the Europeans defending the station, had to leave Ngao on the eve of another expected engagement—refraining from all proceedings of a homicidal tendency. The action being over, the victors went on at once to Golbanti to provide for its security, returning to Ngao by 8 a. m., after a very hard night's work, unlikely to be soon forgotten by any of the party.

Mataloni was a little more than a skirmish; though, besides for the time being saving two of the threatened Mission stations, it had its value, as the first instance of the much-dreaded marauding Somalis getting promptly caught and punished which has always been assumed to be a hopeless task, such is their habitual rapidity of movement. But Kulessa—a sketch of which action appeared, together with this narrative, in a recent issue of the *Daily Graphic*—was a far more eventful day; the repulse at the point of a Somali host some 1,500 strong, marching proudly down the Tana through the Imperial British East Africa Company's territory, and the death of their commander, turning the tide of invasion northwards, saving all the lower part of the Company dominions (including the three Mission stations covered by the defenders' position), and at one stroke ending the war, at all events until after the rains. At high noon on October 26 the American Mission station, over which the stars and stripes were floating side by side with the English flag, was suddenly assailed by the entire Somali Army, which, debouching from the forest, captured the flocks that were out grazing, murdered the shepherds, and under cover of thick bush gained the right flank of the settlement completely unobserved.

Captain Dugmore, whose tent was pitched inside the Mission enclosure, was abruptly roused from a mid-day siesta (with the thermometer at 105 degs. in the shade) by the startling cry of "Somali!" followed by a number of shots rapidly exchanged at the very gate of the enclosure towards the north, which was almost carried by the first wild rush of the enemy's advanced parties. With Mr. Thomas and other Europeans he quickly established himself on the only available commanding position, the flat roof of the unfinished church, whence could be obtained a perfect view of the wide plain stretching away to the forest, over two miles distant, though the bush made it difficult to see much of the enemy's movements on the right flank. Fortunately, relying on their overwhelming numbers, they now

delivered a series of three desperate attacks on the centre of the position, trying at the same time to overlap the station on its left, so as to leave nothing open but the river (in its rear), which in that case would have been held by them both above and below Kulessa. Splendidly handled, they were launched forward across the level plain in successive lines of skirmishers, moving with the precision of European troops and with far greater speed, notwithstanding grass often reaching much more than breast-high. But they had not reckoned on the deadly little Mannlicher carbines in the hands of Captain Dugmore and his Austrian companion, which constituted, as it turned out, an insuperable obstacle to the accomplishment of their cleverly-devised plan. Their order of battle was so open that only single figures, in constant motion, could be aimed at, the total loss, some thirty killed and wounded, in an hour's firing, with frequent intermissions owing to scarcity of ammunition, being on this account much less than at Mataloni. Only about 200 rounds remaining, and the front fighting line being so strongly reinforced as to be almost irresistible in the event of a charge home, the situation, after the first half-hour became more than critical.

It appeared impossible that the enemy could be shot down fast enough to prevent some of them gaining the fence, in which the axes they carried in readiness would very quickly have made a breach. In fact, nothing could now have saved the lives of the defenders and of about 300 helpless women and children (with one European lady) huddled under the Mission verandah, immediately beneath the firing-point, and of the still more helpless men, Galla and Wa-Pokomo, who were patiently awaiting slaughter without ever lifting a finger in their own defence, had not a fortunate shot fired by Captain Dugmore at 600 yards brought down the Somali general, Abdallah Hassan, perhaps the most prominent and influential personage among the whole of the Ogaden, or Inland Somali. The death of their leader put an immediate end to all precision of movement or coherency of plan on the part of the enemy; after a few desultory and apparently objectless manoeuvres, and after a great deal of trouble had been taken to remove the chief's body, which was not accomplished without loss, the clouds of skirmishers were drawn off and concentrated on distant points, not, however, sufficiently distant to be safe against the far-reaching Mannlichers.

Two or three times over the various groups received sharp notice to quit and were compelled to retire to a safer distance, the last shot that was fired with effect killing a man at a mile and a quarter range, 2,200 yards. This forced them to withdraw to the edge of the forest, into which they disappeared about sunset. After their crushing repulse before Kulessa, the baffled and dispirited invaders, splitting up into detachments and abandoning their designs upon the three missions and the fertile and thickly populated district lying south-east of this advanced post of civilisation, retreated slowly up the river to Ndera, followed by Captain Dugmore with only three native scouts (no other force being available, and the other Europeans and Americans being required to guard the settlement), and there recrossed the Tana into the Witu Protectorate, en route for their own country.

A curious incident of the fight was the appearance, utterly bewildered, in the midst of the Somali lines, of three fine topi, or Senegal antelopes—a grand, game animal, much larger than the largest Scotch red-deer.—*United Service Gazette*.

THE CREMEA IN 1854 & 1894.

[Continued.]

From what I have learnt from friends in the column, I believe the following to be substantially accurate:

I do not know if the skirmishers had definite orders, but the ladder party was told to follow them. On the signal being made, the skirmishers, ladder parties, wool-bag men, and a portion of the stormers crossed the parapet, but the skirmishers did not go on more than about fifty yards, where a fold of ground afforded some shelter. One of our officers, pointing to a prominent Russian officer on the Redan crest, asked bitterly, "Since you are so fond of shooting, why don't you shoot him?" The colonel of the battalion forming the stormers was killed as he was crossing the parapet, and several of his men did move westwards, as Mr. Kinglake states.

When Colonel Tylden, who had preceded all others, was hit immediately after answering Lieutenant Graham, that officer, putting down his sword, with the help of a sapper carried the colonel back to a slight hollow fifty yards in rear, and when he looked round the sailors were back inside the trench, in good order, but the soldier carriers had scattered. General Sir John Campbell went up straight between the salient and the flank of the Redan, where the following day a friend of mine saw his body surrounded by dead soldiers, about twenty yards from the salient of the abatis. When Colonel Lord West heard that he had become senior officer he instructed Lieutenant Graham to take out the ladder party again. Lord West intended to form a fresh covering party of skirmishers, and advance of the Redan with the reserve, which was lying in disorder, taking shelter along the line of parapet, but he did not succeed in getting any formed body of men to leave the sheltered position. Graham took out the sailor ladder party, the men of which were keen to go forward, but seeing Lord West could not get men to follow him, Graham eventually brought back the sailors. Lord West now sent to Sir George Brown to ask for fresh troops, but received an answer that he was to reform his attacking columns. This was found to be impossible.

It was not a practical arrangement to send out only a hundred men to cover the advance of the ladder party, but if sent out they should have been clearly ordered not to halt nor fire until they reached the abatis. I believe they would have obeyed this order or have died in the attempt, as so many of those of the right column did; but the whole arrangements showed our want of experience in framing orders for such operations. I should state, in justice to the men of the left column, that while the storming party of the right column was better handled, I imagine the fire, terrible as it was on our side, was less so than that which met the small party following Sir John Campbell, for it was pelted not only from the (proper) right flank of the Redan, but also from the Barrack batteries, while the attention of the Russians in the Malakoff was devoted to the French, who were, moreover, in the Gervais battery when we advanced.

This is a sad story, but it contains valuable lessons for students of war, and more is often learnt from a truthful narrative of a failure than from expurgated accounts of a brilliant victory, in which the lights only are painted in for the victors, the shadows being assigned to the vanquished.

Some unfavorable comments appeared

n letters from headquarters by a staff officer, and in a work recently published, on the leading of Major-General Sir John Campbell. No adequate reasons are given for these statements, and all the evidence we have of his death goes to prove that he behaved very much like all the best generals of the epoch. He had commanded the 4th Division since the battle of Inkerman, and, like his predecessor in that command, was killed at the head of half a battalion. His body was found but a few yards from the point he was ordered to attack, and it is clear that while he showed the most dauntless courage, he fully realized the serious task assigned to him. Immediately before he left our trenches he sent in different directions his aides-de-camp, whose lives he wished might be spared. Nevertheless the last words he said to a subaltern, who for his conduct that morning was awarded the Victoria Cross, indicates clearly his indomitable courage under circumstances which appalled some of his followers. He observed cheerfully, in the language of London society, to the subaltern: "I shall, at all events, be found amongst the *earliest arrivals* at the Redan."

When we recall the conduct of the two generals in immediate command of troops at Inkerman, we find that one who survived and the other who was killed, were always in front with the fighting line. The two cavalry brigadiers, when they closed on the enemy on the 25th October at Balaklava, were from thirty to fifty yards in front of the leading squadrons. The commander-in-chief himself, by the testimony of his warm admirer, Mr. Kinglake, rode across the Alma River not only in front of our skirmishers, but also through those of the enemy, on to a knoll within the Russian position. This, as Sir Edward Hamley wrote, "was indeed a singular position for a commander to take up," and without even the knowledge of his army.

This personal leading had come down as a legacy from the battles of the earlier part of the century. The commander of seven cavalry brigades. The general commanding the 5th Division was killed by a bullet when in his firing line early in that battle, and our Crimea generals only followed precedents which, when successful, are generally applauded. It, therefore, appears to be somewhat unreasonable to blame the determined courage of a man who had only acted up to our traditions.

This habit of generals leading into the thickest of a fight was common not only in the allied armies but also in that of our foe. The two generals of division leading the right and left French columns were struck down in front of their leading brigades, and we learn an interesting episode of the fight in the Karabelnaya, from "Todleben's Defence of Sevastopol." When a part of the leading battalion of D'Autemarre's division (6th Chasseurs) got into the suburb, it took possession of the ruined houses behind the Gervais battery. While the struggle for these hovels was going on, General Khroulew came up with the 5th company Sewsk regiment, one hundred and thirty-five of all ranks, which was returning to barracks after being employed as a working party. The general, having formed up the company, himself led it to the attack, the men going on after him with fixed bayonets and without firing a shot. Two other battalions joined in, and though the French fought desperately, each hovel standing a separate assault, the Russians, by pulling off the roofs, succeeded eventually in repulsing the French. The general survived, but the captain of the company and one hundred and five men, out of a total of one hun-

dred and thirty-five, fell before the 6th Chasseurs were driven out of the suburbs.

When the French went out, we (seven officers, sixty petty officers and men of the Naval Brigade ladder party of the right column) were all crouching huddled close together, keeping as much under cover as we could. I was lying next to Mr. Parsons, a mate, when suddenly he knocked against me violently, and, as I thought, in rough play. I was asking him angrily to leave off skylarking, when I noticed that he had been thrown against me by the earth driven in by a round shot, and was insensible. This shot killed another man, and covered me with earth.

The French were under a very heavy fire, which lessened the light of the coming dawn, but we realized from the noise that they were not going to seize the Malakoff as readily as they had got into the Mamelon on the 7th June. While we were waiting for our signal a mortar shell fell amongst the storming party close to us, and blew a soldier with his rifle and accoutrements several feet into the air. I had scarcely taken my eyes off him when I saw the signal-flag being run up, and before it broke on reaching the top, I called out, "Flag's up," and Captain Peel, jumping on to the parapet, was followed by the naval officers, and in doing so drew a shower of grape and musketry, which knocked down several men behind us. The Russian infantry mounted their parapets and thence directed on us a succession of steadily aimed volleys. When Captain Wolseley, assistant engineer, who was in the mortar battery with Lord Raglan, saw the masses of Russians awaiting our little strings of men, he said, "Ah! there is no chance for them."

The fire which was poured on us is described by Lord Raglan, who had himself seen that which met the storming parties of Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajos (so vividly described in Napier's "History of the Peninsular War"). His Lordship wrote, in his despatch of the 19th June: "I never before witnessed such a continued and heavy fire of grape and musketry;" and in a private letter, "I never had a conception before of such a shower of grape." It is difficult to picture its intensity. Various kinds of projectiles cut up the ground all round us, but yet not continuously in their fullest force. While there was no cessation of the shower of missiles, which pattered on the stony ground like tropical rain, yet every thirty seconds or so, gusts of increased violence came sweeping down the hillside, something after the fashion of a storm as simulated behind the scenes of a theatre.

Peel, standing on the parapet, and waving his sword in the dim light, cheered on our men, shouting, "Come on, sailors, don't let the soldiers beat you." On this appeal the whole of the ladder party ran forward at a steady double, simultaneously with the skirmishers and wool-bag men. The skirmishers started about fifty yards in front of us; in open order, and some, as I saw, went on up to the abatis, where I was speaking to the subaltern of the party, Lieutenant Boileau, 1st Rifle Brigade, when he was mortally wounded. Although I had previously determined to remain with my chief, from the moment we started I lost sight of him. When I was riding down to the battery, so weak and ill as to feel incapable of doing any hand to hand fighting—for a week's diet on tinned milk and rice had left little strength in my body—I realized the value of Hardy as a fighting man. Thinking I would secure, at all events, one physically strong man at my side, I observed to Hardy, who was holding me on the saddle, "When we go out I shall stick to

Captain Peel; mind you stick to me." Hardy replied somewhat evasively, "Yes, I'll stick to him if he goes well to the front," and this indomitable blue-jacket fully carried out his somewhat insubordinately expressed intention.

As the sailors went forward, the storming party detailed from the 34th Regiment was coming out from the trenches, and forming quarter-column by the movement then termed reverse flank—left form, I noticed the men did not flinch, but those coming up on the outer flank were swept down in succession, while the left or pivot men remained untouched. Before we had advanced one hundred yards several sailors had been killed, and I was struck by a bullet inside the thumb, and my sword was knocked five yards away from me. I thought my arm, which was paralysed by the jar, was off, and I instinctively dropped on one knee, but, looking down, I saw that it was merely a flesh wound, and jumped up hurriedly, fearing that any one seeing me might say I was skulking. On going to pick up my sword, I found it was bent up something in the shape of a corkscrew; so I left it on the ground, throwing away also the scabbard. Having no pistol, I was now without any weapon, but this did not occur to my mind at the moment.

In the meantime my comrades had suffered considerably. The senior lieutenant had been slightly wounded, and my friend Dalyell had lost his left arm, shattered by a grape-shot. Captain Peel was also struck, when about half-way up the glacis, by a bullet which passed through his left arm, and became so faint, that he reluctantly came back, attended by Mr. Daniells, who was the only unwounded naval officer out with our column. He escaped injury, although his pistol-case was shot through in two places, and his clothes were cut several times. Thus, before our party got half-way, I was the sole officer remaining effective. In my anxiety to overtake my comrades, I outstripped the leading ladder men, and retraced my steps somewhat unwillingly, for I had an intense desire to reach the Redan, if it was only to escape from the shower of case-shot and bullets which fell all around us.

When I rejoined the ladder party, there were only four ladders being carried to the front by sailors, and I could see none of those entrusted to the soldiers. We had started with six men to a ladder, and a petty officer to every pair. All the petty officers were carrying, having replaced men who had been knocked down. As we went forward we instinctively inclined to our right hand to avoid a blast of missiles which was poured on us from two guns on the (proper) left face of the Redan, but after going another fifty or sixty yards, we came under fire of guns on the curtain connecting the left of the Redan with the Dockyard Ravine, and this caused the column to swerve back again to our left. When I approached the abatis, which I did about fifty yards on the Malakoff side of the salient, there were only two ladders left carried by four and three men respectively. As I joined the leading ladder its carriers were reduced to three, and then the right-hand-rear-man falling, I took his place. The second ladder now fell to the ground, all the men being killed or wounded, and when we were about thirty yards from the abatis my fellow carriers were reduced to two.

There was a young man (ordinary seaman) in front and one man alongside me. The latter presently fell dead, and the young man in front, no doubt realizing a greater drag on his shoulder, for I found the load too heavy for my strength, turned his face round towards me, whom he imagined to be his comrade, shouting, "Come along Bill; let's get ours up

first," and before he had recognized me, he was knocked down. I must admit a sense of relief came over me; I felt my responsibility was gone, as even the most enthusiastic commander could scarcely expect me to carry the only remaining ladder, eighteen feet in length, by myself. It was now lying within thirty yards of the abatis, under the slight shelter of which scattered soldiers were crouching; some were firing, and a great many shouting, while above us on the parapet stood Russians four and, in places, six deep, firing at us and calling sarcastically to us to come in. There appeared very little chance of our being able to take advantage of this invitation; the abatis was about one hundred yards from the ditch at the salient, and where I was then standing, some seventy yards outside it. The obstacle was in itself about four feet thick and from four to five feet high, the stoutest portions of the wood being from six to eight inches in diameter. There were one or two places where we could have pushed through one man at a time, but even then, after crossing the open space intervening between the abatis and the ditch, there was a still more serious obstacle. The ditch, eleven feet deep and about twenty feet broad, was in itself a difficulty to overcome; but twenty-six feet above the bottom of the ditch, there was the huge earthen rampart, on which the Russians were standing ready for us. I realized immediately that any attempt was hopeless unless the remainder of the assaulting column came on, for our storming party of four hundred had dwindled down to something between one hundred and two hundred. Lieutenant Graves, Royal Engineers, coming up to me, asked if I had seen Captain Peel. I said, "Not since we crossed the parapet," and he passed on, being killed almost immediately. He was as calm and collected in manner during these trying moments as he showed himself on the 10th April, when, as I described in the previous paper, a round shot scooped the ground from under his feet.

Just then an officer seizing a bough from the abatis, waved it over his head, and cheerily called on the men to follow, but he was at the same moment pierced by several bullets, and fell lifeless. While looking round, I was struck by the burning courage of a young sergeant who was

trying to induce men to accompany him over the abatis. After calling in vain on the men immediately round him to follow, waxing wroth, he said, "I'll tel my right-hand man to follow, and if he fails I'll shoot him." Bringing his rifle to the "ready," he said: "Private —, will you follow me?" I saw by the sergeant's eye that he was in earnest and stood for a few seconds as if spell-bound. The man looked deliberately up at the hundreds of Russians above us, then to his comrades, as if reckoning the numbers (those near at hand were certainly under one hundred), and replied quietly, "No, I won't." The sergeant threw his rifle into his shoulder with the apparent intention of shooting the man, but in the act of taking aim, struck by a grape-shot, he fell dead.

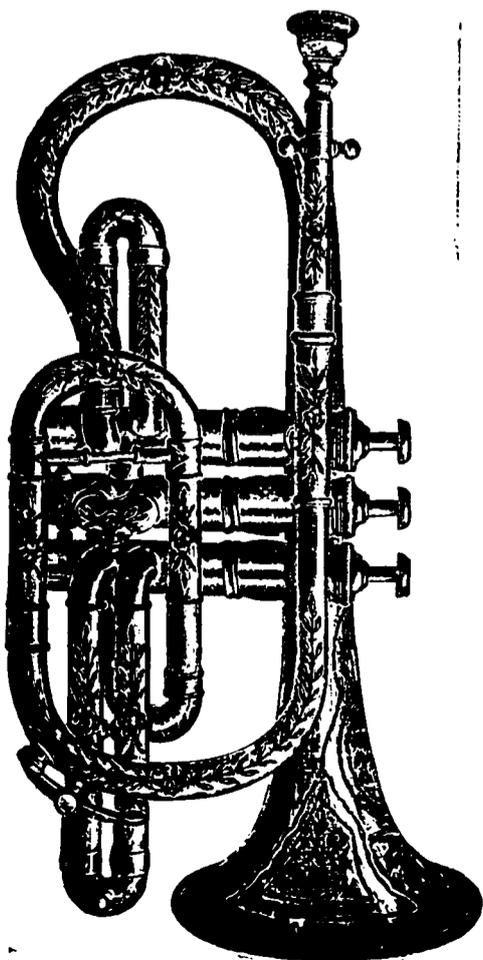
I now knelt on one knee alongside an officer, and was speaking to him as to our chances of succeeding, when he was pierced just above the waist-belt by a bullet. As he tossed about in pain, calling on the Almighty, I was somewhat perturbed, but I had seen too much bloodshed to be seriously affected, until he called on his mother. This allusion distressed me so much that I got up and walked away along the abatis northward, looking if there were any weaker spot in the obstacle. While doing so, I saw four Russians above me, apparently "following" me with their rifles. Instinctively throwing up my left arm to save my face, I was strolling slowly along when a gun was fired with case shot close to me. The shots came crashing through the abatis, and one, weighing five and a half ounces, struck me just below the sunny-bone. This knocked me over, and sent me rolling down the slope of the hill, where I lay insensible.

Just after this moment, Colonel Yea, the acting brigadier-general of the Light Division Brigade, which had furnished the assaulting column, came up to the abatis, and Lieutenant A'Court Fisher, reporting himself, asked, "Shall I advance, sir?" but before Colonel Yea could reply he fell dead. Fisher then turned to Captain Jesse, Royal Engineers, asking "What's to be done?" but he was also killed ere he could reply. Lieutenant Fisher, who was reported to have shown "great coolness, judgment, and decision" being unable to find any officers senior to him, then ordered all who

could hear him to retire, and a bugler repeated the command. Just at the same moment the reserve eight hundred men, under Colonel D. Lysons, advancing, left our trenches, but seeing the survivors of the storming party retiring, conformed to the movement.

How long I remained unconscious I cannot tell, but I was aroused by an Irish sergeant shaking me by the wounded arm, which was uppermost, and saying, "Matey, if you are going in, you had better go at once, or you'll get bageneted." My strongly worded reply showed him that I was an officer, which he might well be excused having failed to perceive, for I had little or nothing about me characteristic of the rank. My gold-band cap was lying under my body; a blue monkey-jacket much worn and dirty, a red shirt, and pair of blue trousers, with red silk waist scarf, were all that I had on, having, as I described above, thrown away my sword scabbard when I lost my sword, almost immediately after leaving our trenches. The sergeant informed me that the "retire" had sounded some minutes previously, and that all our people had gone back. He then, in spite of a shower of bullets fired at less than a hundred yards' distance, helped me up tenderly, taking great care this time not to hurt my wounded arm. Then, having put me on my feet, he, bending down his head, ran as fast as he could back towards our trenches. I followed him, but very slowly, heading for the 8-gun battery, for, although I had not felt any weakness since the moment we left the trench on the flag going up, I had now become faint, and could walk only with difficulty, although grape, case, and bullets crashed about me. When I had got about half-way down, I saw several men running, with bodies bent, in a ditch, into which I stepped. This trench had been advanced about a hundred yards towards the Redan in the past week. It was but a foot or so deep, but with the rank grass three feet high gave some slight shelter. I had gone only a few yards down it when the screams of wounded men who had crawled into the shelter, and who were further injured by the soldiers running over them, caused me to get out of the trench and walk away from it.

(To be Continued.)



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