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United Service Magazine

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ROYAL REGIMENT CANADIAN INFANTRY.

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NO. 4.

APPOINTMENTS OF OFFICERS TO THE CANADIAN MILITIA AND EXAMINATIONS.

Officers are supposed to be the leaders of their men. To be such they must possess, at least, as much and rather more technical knowledge and ability as those men. How, otherwise, is their precedence justified. Surely not because there is more gold on their coats. Therefore, the best men must be selected, who either are or will be good leaders; if not it would be sheer murder to entrust the lives of men to their guidance.

How are the best men to be got? How is their fitness as such to be proved? First get educated men, knowledge is power, education gives knowledge. How long will it take to kill the false idea, so prevalent among the ignorant, that soldiering is the one profession in which any fool can claim to be a professional by putting on soldier's clothes and assuming a military title.

At present in the Canadian Militia, in some regiments, *the best* (as above defined) are not always selected, not often in others, and in some never. Such being the case, it naturally follows that the standard of technical knowledge that could reasonably be expected from them is not clearly defined, to the detriment of the service in general, to the good men there

are in it, and to the advantage (from their point of view) of worthless officers is as much as a screen is, thereby charitably covering their intellectual shortcomings. They hug themselves with the thought that an indulgent public sees in them real officers, and not uneducated boors masquerading in soldier's clothes, being uneducated and in no way gentlemen; it is impossible to teach them the rudiments of the knowledge an officer should have, or the manners.

There is much truth in the proverb that "Birds of a feather flock together," and "By his friends shall a man be known." Therefore, the best men, the class that should give Canada the good officers, naturally refrain from joining any Corps. One or two utter outsiders will spoil the chances of any Regiment getting smart young fellows of education as officers, and the Corps gradually gets nothing but the useless class. Logically, as this state of affairs in individual regiments ruins it, so does a continuance of the system ruin the whole force throughout the country, until we finally have a so-called military organization without that absolute essential for the justification of its existence, viz., technical knowledge. What is the remedy to the present state of affairs? Simply by every C. O. being himself of the fittest class for the position, and by his insisting on only recommending similar gentlemen for the vacancies in his own regiment for commissions. Secondly, by the authorities at H. Quarters insisting on the regulations relating to examinations in professional subjects being adhered to, and by discontinuancing the deviations and anomalies that have crept into the system of conducting the same.

As regards the first portion of the remedy, an objection is often raised, but it is easily answered. It is said that C. Os. often have no choice in the selection of their officers; that they must take those that offer or they will get none. If they really cannot get the right kind, it is better by far to get none. Disband a corps that can only be officered by uneducated men, who are for that reason incapable of acquiring any technical knowledge. A small reliable force is better than an armed mob. This is too palpable a military truth to require further explanation to any reasonable being. Again, it is an undeserved slur on the young men of Canada to consider that it would be hard to get the kind of men the Militia requires as officers throughout the *whole force* if the methods outlined here are adopted in earnest.

As regards the second part of the remedy, let us assume that we are to see decently educated gentlemen come to the Schools of Instruction to pass the examinations in military subjects that will qualify them to hold commissions. The regulations distinctly say that 50 per cent. marks obtained gives a second-class certificate, provided not less than 40 per cent. is obtained in any one subject, and that 70 per cent. obtained entitles an officer to a first-class certificate. Make them *earn* those certificates in accordance with these regulations, not as at present. Go up for a "first" or "second," and always have it given them irrespective of their deserving it, in order to credit the school with the issue of another certificate too often issued from this motive, as well as that of fear of giving offence to the Militia by withholding what has not been earned.

We notice with interest that Sir Michael Hicks Beach, in a recent speech said :—" That Canada must be prepared to take her share in Imperial defence," especially in naval defence. It certainly seems passing strange that a country with 5,000,000 inhabitants should be content to permit the tax payers of the United Kingdom to provide the entire protection for her large and still increasing mercantile marine. The question of naval defence is most important, but many will say: " look at what we have done, observe our 37,000 militia!" We answer thirty per cent. at the lowest computation are on paper only :—do not all the rural battalions coming into camp for their valuable 10 days training, for that is all it is, scour the highways and by ways for so called recruits? It is a notorious fact that the average number of men who have previously attended a camp is not more than 20 per cent. of the required establishment. But this is only a minor matter; we have no genuine organization. Where are trained Brigadiers and Staff Officers except our few permanent Corps Officers, for Cavalry, Artillery and Infantry, in case of a sudden attempt at real mobilization? Where are our *cadres* of registered transport services? Where are *adequate* depôts of warlike material? In a country of this extent each district might be administered so as to have, on mobilization, transport and medical staff and services, partially arranged for in times of peace. It is folly to talk of what we have done. We have done nothing! Men—men can always be obtained, but our trained staffs, transport, com-

missariat and medical arrangements are supposed to be able to *evolve themselves* at a moment's notice. It is time indeed that the minds of all loyal Canadians should be directed to the military requirements for defence now-a-days. Alas! the people are ignorant; and the people rule!

In this connection and to show how our present G. O. C. views the matter, we quote the following from his report of 1896 on the Canadian Militia.

“As already urged by my predecessor, one of the “greatest needs of the militia is a systematic organization throughout the whole service. No force which consists “merely of a number of individual units such as regiments, “battalions, and batteries, with no organized staff, and “without those departments which clothe, feed, arm, nurse, “and pay an army in the field, can be looked upon as a force “available for war.

“I intend to submit proposals to remedy this for your “consideration before long.”

Let us remind ourselves of the English volunteer motto “*Si vis pacem pare bellum,*” and set our house in order as soon as possible.

The Military forces of New South Wales consists, principally, says the Navy and Army, of a sort of Militia termed the “partially paid forces,” horse, foot and artillery, but there is in addition a permanent force of artillery, garrison and field. Their uniform is similar to the Imperial Artillery, with the exception of the helmet, which has the national badge of N. S. W. in front. Several forts on the Coast, and especially at the entrance to Sydney Harbour, are manned by the Garrison Artillery and kept in most excellent and efficient order. The Field Artillery consist of three batteries, A., B. and C. of four guns. The strength of A. Battery, which is the only one permanently manned, is twenty-two officers and non-commissioned officers and fifty-five gunners. B. and C., which belong to the “partially paid” forces, and are horsed by A. Battery when necessary, have each twenty officers and non-commissioned officers and fifty gunners. Nearly all these officers and men are Australian born and trained. Their standard is very high, and they are, undoubtedly, a splendid Corps. Victoria Barracks, in Sydney, built

originally for the Imperial troops, were, some years ago, turned over to the Colonial Government, and are now occupied by the Permanent Artillery. This force formed the principal part of the contingent sent to Egypt in 1885.

The first muster of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue) took place in February, 1661. Its Colonel was Aubrey De Vere, twentieth and last Earl of Oxford.

The Carabineers or 6th Dragoon Guards, unlike other regiments of Dragoon Guards, wear a blue tunic with white collar and cuffs. A double white strip is worn on the trowsers. The helmet is of brass, with white metal ornaments, and surmounted by a plume of white horse hair.

This account of the English army, as it was on the 1st April, 1689, is copied from the Navy and Army :—

The English Army, the 1st of April last, consisted as followeth :—

Three troops of Guards, with three troops of Grenadiers to them, making together 768 men.

One troop of Scotts' Guards, consisting of 118 men.

Ten regiments of horse, in 66 troops, each troop of 50 making together 3,300 men.

Four regiments of Dragoons, in 26 troops, whereof 20 have 60 men and the other six 49 each, making together 1,494 men.

Two regiments of Foot Guards, in 45 companies of 80 each, making together 3,600 men.

Twenty-six regiments of Foot, whereof one has 26 companies of 60 each, another has 14 companies of 79 each, and the remaining 24 regiments have 13 companies of 60 each, making together 21,386 men.

Four Independent companies of 50 men each, 200 men.

The above particulars, which are all computed without reckoning the officers, make up 4,186 horse, 1,494 Dragoons and 25,186 foot; in all 30,866 men.

The Annual Meeting of the United Service Club will be held in Ottawa on the 24th of March. We can hardly look for a large attendance from distant stations, though if cut rates be in force about that date, some may take advantage of it. We hope, however, that as many as possible will attend.

The Minister of Militia, through his Secretary, has written the City of Montreal to ascertain if it would be willing to have the sum of \$25,000, which in 1894 it voted conditionally toward the establishment of a Military School in Montreal, used unconditionally for the erection of Barracks in that city.

A telegram from London, under date of February 6th, appears on the *Montreal Star*, and says:—The statement that the Canadian Government is cutting down the permanent militia force is provoking much dissatisfied comment here. It is pointed out that the moment is most unfortunate for economy in this particular direction. One journal, the *Globe*, even talks of the resumption of Imperial control of the Canadian force, and a new weekly journal, the *Outlook*, to-day severely rebukes the *Globe*, and says that to suggest such a thing is to misread all the lessons of the past and wantonly obstruct the natural evolution of the relations between the Mother Land and the colony into a full and effective partnership.

The announcement which we made in our last issue with reference to the removal of the Infantry School from St. Johns has not as yet been realized, much to the disappointment of the Montreal Militia. It was fully believed that the removal would have taken place on the 15th of January last, What was the immediate difficulties in the way we do not know, but we presume they were deemed sufficient.

At the presentation of prizes won by the 2nd Regiment Canadian Artillery, which took place in the Armory just as we are making up, the Minister of Militia made his first public announcement regarding a Military School for Montreal. In presenting one of the prizes, he made a nice little speech, in which he said that he had not long occupied his portfolio before he was convinced of the necessity of having a Military School in the city of Montreal, the great commercial centre of the Dominion. As time passed this conviction became stronger, and he was now in the position to state that in the near future a Military Depot and School would be established in Montreal. This announcement was received with great applause.

In this connection we believe that in few weeks a deputation will wait on the Minister, and urge upon him the great desirability, even the necessity, of carrying out his intentions at once.

The appointment of Major Cartwright, Royal Regiment Canadian Infantry, to the position of Assistant Adjutant General of Militia at Head Quarters has been gazetted. This office has been vacant since Col. Aylmer became Adjutant General, but the necessity of its being filled has long been evident to those who take an interest in Militia matters. It was quite impossible for the Adjutant General to cope with the entire work of his department, and that he has worked most laboriously in the attempt is a fact well known to his friends. A more hard working or conscientious officer than Col. Aylmer it would be impossible to find. We congratulate Major Cartwright on his appointment, which we believe he will worthily fill.

An appointment, which we believe will be received with pleasure by the Medical Staff of the Militia is that of Surgeon Lieut.-Col. Neilson, R.C.A., to the position of Medical Director, which has been gazetted. When the Minister decided upon having such an office at Head-Quarters, the name of Surgeon Neilson naturally forced itself upon his attention. Not only is he the Senior Officer in the Permanent force, but he is the only one who has devoted himself entirely to his Military duties. He took part in the Red River Expedition of 1870, and joined the Royal Canadian Artillery as Surgeon in 1871. In 1884 he went to Egypt in medical charge of the Canadian Voyageurs, and took part in the Soudan campaign, for which he received the Egyptian Medal and Khedive Star. Dr. Neilson, if given a free hand, which we hope he will be, is sure to inaugurate many needed reforms. We heartily congratulate the Doctor on his appointment, and the Minister in having selected the right man. Dr. Neilson will not sever his connection with the Artillery.

The death of Major General Middleton, at the Tower, London, early in January, was a great surprise to his numerous Canadian friends. Up to a short time before his death his health had been excellent. General Middleton

commanded the Canadian Militia for over five years, and was in command of the North West Expedition force in 1885, which he conducted to a most successful issue. His connection with Canada was, however, more intimate, for his second wife, who survives him, is a member of a distinguished Montreal French Canadian family. In her heavy bereavement we extend to her our deep sympathy.

The Military Gazette speaks of a Field Officers Association as about to be formed to embrace combatant and non-combatant branches of the service. What about the Canadian United Service Club. It would seem to be quite able to fill the bill.

The *Regiment*, of February 19, says: "A correspondent writing from Halifax, Nova Scotia, informs me that there was not a single death in the Military hospital there during the year 1897. This is a record that will take a lot of beating." About as good a record, if not a slightly better one, can be found at No. 3 Regimental Depot R.R.C.I., St. John's, Que., where with an average strength of about (including regular and attached soldiers) 150 men, there has been only one death, and that from consumption, since its establishment in December, 1883. The *Regiment* adds that the 2nd Battalion Leinster Regiment is about to move to Halifax. On February 19 the Leinster Regiment had already been two or three months in Halifax.

The Royal Military College Club held its annual meeting in Quebec, on the 19th February. The attendance was small. In the evening they dined at the Garrison Club. Many courtesies were extended to them during their visit. Capt. Macpherson was elected President, but waived his right in favor of Major Greenwood, 3rd Dragoons, Peterborough, Ont.

The memorial tablet which the Battleford Column Association propose erecting on the Toronto Drill Hill will soon be ready to place in position. It was designed by Color-Serjt. Lennox, of Queen's Own Rifles, and was selected as the best of six designs submitted.

WOLSELEY BARRACKS

in 1902.

A PROPHECY.

IT was a dismal day, and the dreary aspect of the empty Barracks tended to increase the gloom that hovered around the edifice on Carling's Heights.

Passing through the archway that once had been the scene of relieving guards, and sentrygo done in a brisk and soldierlike manner, as per Order Board hanging in the now desolate sentry box, a curious stranger noticed that the crevices between the boards were filled with tiny shoots of grass, and the nails that once had been polished by the perpetual tread of Government bulls' wools were now red with the rust of some years' wind and weather.

Inside the guard room cobwebs hung in picturesque festoons, from the arm rack and wash basin. A bleary-eyed rat who had evidently seen better days, before melancholy had marked him for her own, was sitting in silent grandeur on the radiator from whence he cast looks of defiance at Jerry, who still loved to linger around the scenes of his childhood, and who subsisted on the remains of a ham which Sergt. Dunlevy had left him in the guard room before he took his departure with the remainder of the company, and the ham, like the widow's cruse of (coal) oil, never gave out. Across the archway the prisoners room had still more traces of the blight that had fallen on the Empire Mice, innumerable, disported themselves among the débris caused by fallen plaster and a bed-cot that had been the virtuous couch of many sons of Mars, rested with a tired air upon four legs instead of six, and the rakish appearance of the radiator in a state of semi-collapse reminded one forcibly of some of the former tenants of the room. Inside the Barrack square,

"No track, nor pathway might declare,
That human foot frequented there,"

weeds covered the once cleanly kept parade ground, and a few sparrows of ancient lineage and undoubted respectability were picking in a desultory fashion a few blades of grass that were protruding from the cracks in the sidewalk. The stone slabs over the coal chute were covered with lichen that sticketh closer than a brother, and moss formed a green carpet on the steps leading into the passages that once teemed with the life of No. 1 Company R. R. C. I.

Peeping into the now deserted rooms, evidences of decay were painfully apparent. Spiders (who in former days had but to spin one thread of their gossamer to be ruthlessly dashed to the ground and the orderly man ordered to carry them out) now spread their fragile nets in every conceivable place, in the vain hope of entrapping some unsophisticated migratory fly into their boudoir. The smell of fallen plaster and rotting woodwork now pervades the atmosphere that in days gone by was impregnated with the perfume of John Cockburn's Havana "Threefers." The tapestry that formerly adorned the shelves at the end of the rooms was now hanging frayed and torn from a bed-cot where it had been dragged by some irreverent rodent who had intended to weave it into their nests behind the wainscoting. In the cook-house the walls were dripping with slime and mildew, fungi of fearful and wonderful appearance adorned the sink, placed there at enormous expense by the late Government, and the ranges loomed gray and solemn like a mausoleum in the cool recesses of a country church at home. Opening the boiler-house door the whirring of wings and noisome scents reminded one strangely of an Egyptian pyramid in the course of excavation. Rats of enormous size and hideous shape careered madly around their prison, and fitting company for the vampires was an unctuous looking heap in one of the furnaces, which, upon investigation, proved to be the remains of Ikey Horspoole, whose occupation gone could not rest in the cold civilian world, and had crawled to the scenes of his former triumphs and had there given up the ghost.

Leaving the now deserted Barracks, the stranger wandered towards the ash-pit, formerly the Klondyke of all lost dogs, who, when they struck this El Dorado, fared sumptuously every day until annihilated by a despotic Provost at the instigation of an unfeeling Adjutant. In close proximity to the red shed was a heap of bleached bones picked and licked clean by Jerry, that could only have been the frame of "Flossie," the Colonel's charger who had

"A heart of Hell,

"The mouth of a bell

"And a head of the gallows tree,"

and who in galloping around seeking the lost legions had dashed her brain out against Major Nadmore's steamjack, the V. R. I.

The commons gate was wide open, and Mrs. Brown's lowing herd wound slowly o'er the lea towards the C. P. R. tracks—where they scratched themselves meditatively against the Golf Clubhouse. In the coal oil shed was seated on a barrel a grinning skeleton, a pen corroded with the rust of many moons was clasped in the bony fingers. Some MS. on a table before the Thing, upon drawing closer, proved to be a government scratch book, and in it some incidents in the life of the pioneer who had died in the act of committing to posterity his connections with the Toronto News Company.

The stranger turned with sickening heart from these frightful spectacles, and meeting a man on the road enquired the reason why solitude reigned over scenes that once had viewed the pomp and circumstance of glorious war, and his answer was to the effect that some years before the once proud company stationed there had been disbanded, the men thereof having wandered to the uttermost parts of the earth, and that desolation had reigned supreme ever since.

Thanking his informant, the traveller wended his way citywards, mentally changing Goldsmith's words to read as follows:—

“ Colonels and Majors may flourish or may fade,
A breath can make them, as a breath has made,
But a bold company, the captain's pride
When once destroyed can never be supplied.”

The darkening shadows of evening falling fast soon shut out the deserted Barracks from the view of passing man, and

“ Silence settled wide and still
On the lone wood and mighty hill.”

The strict fulfilment of the above prophecy cannot be guaranteed, and it is probable that like the foretellings of Casanara it will not be credited by the reader.

“HODSON'S HORSE.”

Sir Hugh Gough relates the following when he was serving as a subaltern in “Hodson's Horse,” during the Mutiny:—“Just one march before we reached Cawnpore a very unpleasant incident occurred, which caused me great grief at the time, and which I feared would utterly ruin all my chances of distinction, but which, as so many things unexpectedly do in one's daily life, afterwards proved just the reverse. I must here allude to the undisciplined state of my men, and say that their idea of ‘order’ was about as vague as could well be conceived. Our commander, Brigadier Hope Grant, C. B., a man who had been brought up in the strict routine of the 9th Lancers, could not appreciate the fact that such ‘rabble,’ as he was pleased to term us ‘Hodson's Horse,’ could be worth anything as soldiers. As ill-luck would have it, on visiting the picquets one afternoon the General (Hope Grant) found the one supplied by ‘Hodson's Horse’ sadly wanting in that alert smartness so dear to the heart of the energetic cavalry commander. He was very angry, and ‘pitched into’ the native officer roundly and justly, as he deserved, and then sent for me, when he gave me as rough a rubbing-up as his naturally kind old heart and tongue was capable of, and visiting all the sins of my men, who never dreamt they were to blame, on my devoted head, passed the order that the detachment of ‘Hodson's Horse,’ under Lieutenant Hugh Gough, was to be placed on perpetual rearguard till further orders. This was a blow and a punishment with a vengeance. There is no duty so irksome, so onerous, or so wanting in opportunity as that of ‘rearguard.’ I, in my turn, was naturally very disgusted with my men, and gave them, especially the native officers, my views on the matter most strongly. They were full of penitence, and vowed they would show what they could do to make up for it on the earliest opportunity. We left Cawnpore on October 30th, ‘Hodson's Horse’ still occupying our place of punishment—‘perpetual rearguard.’ For the first two days there was neither fighting nor excitement of any kind. On the third day, however, opposition met the column at the Burmee Bridge, the passage of which was disputed by the enemy who were posted in a strong village commanding the bridge. Of course, I saw nothing of this fight, being employed in looking after the safety of the baggage, and hustl-

ling up the camels and bullock-carts, which form a long and straggling line—a task very trying to one's temper and patience. But fortune smiled on me when least expected, and sent an enterprising enemy round by the rear to see what they could do in the way of loot and damage. This party, numbering over 200 horsemen, suddenly appeared on our left flank, and made a dash towards the line of baggage. Captain Wheatcroft of the carabiniers, a gallant officer, was then commanding the rearguard. He desired me to reconnoitre the enemy's cavalry, and see what they were up to. I went forward, therefore, with some fifteen troopers, and soon came in full view of the enemy, a body of our own mutinied irregular horse, who, seeing the smallness of my party, promptly came at us, and saluted us with a volley from their carbines, which, as they fired from horseback, was ill-directed and harmless. In the meantime, I ordered up as many of my regiment as I could quickly gather together, and, as soon as I got about 40 men, charged them with a tremendous cheer, and soon got into the thick of them. They could not stand the shock of the charge which we were able to deliver home, and broke and fled. We pursued them some way, and cut up numbers of them. My men were mad to retrieve their disgrace and the rearguard punishment, and behaved most splendidly. Wheatcroft, in the meantime, seeing me disappear over the undulating ground with a cheer and a charge, and knowing our small numbers, was in a desperate state of anxiety and alarm, and was about to start to my assistance when he saw us returning in triumph and safety. To me this little affair gave the deepest joy, for I felt my men had shown what they could do, and, that if they had been slack on picquet duty, they were not slack in a charge. Wheatcroft was full of praise and congratulation, and gave a very flattering report of my little achievement to General Hope Grant, who made amends for all we had suffered by saying he had been mistaken in his estimation of my men, and adding that we should have the post of advance guard on the march of the force to the Alum Bagh. I slept that night the sleep of the justly happy, and dreamed of Victoria Crosses, brevets and other chances which I had thought were closed to me for ever."

OCCASIONAL LYRICS.

PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE.

By SIR EDMUND NUGENT, BART. (*late Grenadier Guards.*)

In days of old, a soldier's trade
 Was an easy thing to learn ;—
 A couple of drills, and a short parade
 Were the sum of the whole concern,
 To read and to write were then untaught,—
 Yet many a tale is told
 Of the way that our "rude forefathers" fought
 In the glorious days of old !

Shoulder to shoulder they faced the foe,
 Where the thunder of the battle rolled,
 To flinch or to waver they did not know
 In the military days of old !

Now we learn to unravel a cubic root,
 And lecture on time and tide,—
 We drop from the clouds in a parachute,
 And a camel's back bestride.
 But, though many a fool has vainly thought
 That our valour waxes cold,
 We can fight as well as our fathers fought
 In the glorious days of old !

Shoulder to shoulder we face the foe
 For we're fashioned in the self-same mould
 As the soldiers of England were, you know,
 In the military days of old !

And how will it be with our soldier sons ?
 Will they march to the some old tunes ?
 Or fire with electric motor guns,
 And bestraddle light horse balloons ?
 Well, whatever the changes time has wrought,
 I think I may make so bold
 As to say they'll fight as their fathers fought
 In the glorious days of old !

Shoulder to shoulder they'll face the foe,
 For they're fashioned of a stuff like gold ;
 And the soldiers of England are all built so,
 Since the military days of old !—

Household Brigade Magazine.

(From the *Dominion Illustrated*, November 1st, 1890.)

OUR PERMANENT TROOPS, I.

“B” Company, Royal School of Infantry.

ROYAL MILITARY SCHOOLS.

On the 25th May, 1883, the Governor-General assented to an amended Militia Act, which had been introduced by the present popular Minister of Militia, Sir A. P. Caron, which provided for the organization of three companies of infantry, to be permanently maintained. The object was, in the words of the Act, “to provide for the care and protection of forts, magazines, armaments, warlike stores and such like service, also to secure the establishment of schools for military instruction.” Such schools had previously existed in Canada, and, as a matter of fact, did exist at the time this act was passed. Their previous existence will be remembered by many, for they were in connection with Imperial regiments stationed in Quebec, Montreal and elsewhere. To secure attendance at these Imperial regimental schools did not require a commission in the militia. Any one could attend, and, upon getting a pass certificate, secured a certain money payment. Hundreds availed themselves of this privilege. The withdrawal of the Imperial troops from Canada in 1871, necessitated the Canadian Government organizing regular troops of their own, to garrison the Citadel at Quebec and Fort Henry at Kingston. To perform this work, A and B Batteries of Canadian Artillery were called into existence on the 20th October, 1871. These batteries were to consist of two divisions—“Field and Garrison”—and were shortly after called upon to perform the “school duties” which had hitherto been carried on by Imperial troops. In addition to their true military designation, they had given them the title of “Royal Schools of Artillery.” To these schools went many officers of the militia force for instruction; but the infantry officers felt that an “artillery school” was hardly the place at which to get first-class infantry education. To meet this difficulty, the amended Militia Act of 1883 gave authority to call into existence three permanent companies of infantry. On the 21st of December, 1883, a Militia General Order, the substance of which is as follows, appeared in the *Canada Gazette*.

INFANTRY SCHOOL CORPS.

The formation of three schools of infantry having been authorized, the requisite number of militiamen will be enrolled and formed into one corps, to be known as the "Infantry School Corps."

The stations of these schools were to be: "A" Company at Fredericton, N.B., under Lieut.-Col. Maunsell, commandant; "B" Company, at St. Johns, P. Q., under Lieut.-Col. D'Orsonnens, commandant; "C" Company, at Toronto, under Lieut.-Col. Otter, commandant. Subsequent authority was given to organize a fourth company—"D" Company—and it was and is stationed at London, Ont., where splendid new barracks were specially erected. In 1883 a troop of permanent cavalry—"The Cavalry School Corps"—was organized under Lieut.-Colonel Turnbull, and stationed in Quebec. In 1885 a company of mounted infantry was formed and stationed at Winnipeg, and in 1887 another battery—"C" Battery—was called into existence and stationed at Victoria, B.C.. The three Batteries of Artillery—A B and C—form "the Regiment of Canadian Artillery," under the command of Lieut.-Col. Irwin. By the end of January, 1884, the required number of men were enlisted for the infantry and cavalry—the period of enlistment three years—and in the spring of that year their educational work began and has continued ever since. Some three years ago Her Majesty was pleased to bestow upon them the title of "Royal Schools." The course of instruction lasts three months and there are three courses in the year. The officers attached for instruction live and mess in barracks and receive one dollar a day pay. The instruction is carried on by the permanent or regular officers and non-commissioned officers under the direction of the commandant. In addition to militia officers, militia non-commissioned officers and men can also be attached. They receive fifty cents a day pay. The pay of the regular Canadian private soldier is forty cents a day and a full kit. The only stoppages are 15 cents a day when in hospital and a trifling monthly stoppage for hair-cutting. Such is a brief outline of the organization of our small force of Canadian regulars—a portion of whose duty is that of "military schools" for our volunteers, the officers of which must qualify or lose their commission. To render the qualifying as easy as possible at the end of each regular course, special courses lasting about two weeks are given.

This issue of the DOMINION ILLUSTRATED we devote largely to illustrating the Royal Military School in connection with "B" Company, Infantry School Corps, stationed in the Barracks at St. Johns, P.Q. A recent issue contained a view of the officers' quarters from the tennis ground and another taken from the river. The ground on which the barracks are built is memorable ground in connection with the early history of this country, and saw stirring scenes when occupied by the French, as it also did when assailed by an American force. The old French earthworks, which are still in a good state of preservation, show that the fort covered a considerable piece of ground and mounted a number of guns. The present barracks were erected in 1839, as we are informed by a brass plate on the hall of the officers' quarters which bears the following inscription :

This Barrack for
3 F. Officers, 27 Officers, 12 Sergts, 800 Men
and Hosp'l for 80 Patnts

Was

Commenced June, 1839. Completed December, 1839.

Amount estimated £19,209 1 5³/₄ stg.

Amount expended £117,231 5 7¹/₂ stg.

Executive Officer, Major Foster, R.E.

Commanding Royal Engineers, Canada

Col. Oldfield, K. H.

Old residents of St. Johns speak with feelings of pride when they tell of the famous British regiments which in turn have been quartered in the barracks, among them the 43rd and 71st. The late Col. Dyde once told the writer of the gay scenes which marked the residence there of the latter regiment under Sir Hugh Dalrymple. Upon one occasion he with two or three friends had gone out on "guest night," to dine with the officers. A snow storm of extraordinary severity came on and they were not able to get back for several days. Every night became a "guest night," "and a jollier crowd," said the old colonel, "I never saw." Even in these latter days such an occurrence is not uncommon, and more than once, guests of "B" Company—to Dinner" on guest night, have been compelled to remain till next day, because of an old-fashioned Canadian snowstorm.

In this connection let us say a word as to the hospitality of the permanent officers of "B" Company, Infantry School Corps. They are few in number, but a more generous lot of fellows it would be hard to find. Many an officer

of the Montreal volunteer force has experienced it, and not a few of our Montreal citizens can testify that they have received a cordial welcome on "guest night" at the barracks, which is every Thursday night. At 6.30 the bugle sounds for dress, and at 7 p.m. the call to dinner is resounding through the corridors. Then the ante-room presents a gay scene—the permanent officers in their beautiful scarlet mess jackets and dark blue vests; the attached officers, some in scarlet and some in rifle green; the civilian guests in full dress. As the mess room door opens, the mess sergeant announces "dinner is served," the guests troop in, the band in the kiosk on the tennis ground begins to play, and continues to do so at intervals during the dinner. If the scene in the ante-room was gay, the mess room is even more so. The dinner table is beautifully laid, and is in season nicely decorated with flowers, while the officers' servants, acting as waiters, dressed in the regimental livery (tail coat, with large brass buttons and scarlet vest and regimental trousers), move about, quietly attending to the wants of the guests. The only toast drunk is "The Queen." Dinner over, the ante-room is once more occupied; then coffee and cigars; after which, cards for some, while others take to the billiard room. Any guest from Montreal wishing to do so can return by train, leaving St. Johns at five minutes to eleven, reaching his home by midnight. If he decides to stay all night, he gets a soldier's bed and a soldier's welcome. The band of the Company for its strength is an exceptionally good one. The officers, however, state that it is very difficult to keep it in good condition, as it hardly ever gets any outside engagements. The Company is short of two lieutenants—Captain Freer, who rejoined his regiment, and Lieut. Roche, transferred to Fredericton, not having been replaced. The school suffers in consequence. A few words now regarding our illustrations.

THE GUARD HOUSE AND BARRACK GUARD.—The Guard Room is a new one—built some four years ago, the old one having being burnt previous to the barracks being occupied by Canadian troops. It contains an officer's room, a room for the guard, a room for prisoners and four cells. The Barrack Guard consists of three privates, a bugler and a non-commissioned officer. Occasionally for instruction an officer's guard is mounted. Sentry-go is two hours on and four hours off. On a blustery cold winter's night sentry duty at this post is cold work.

BARRACK GATE AND GUARD HOUSE.—The approach to the Barrack Gate from town is over a road which is said to have once been splendid, but now it is always bad, and in wet weather a perfect "slough of despond." Pedestrians fare better, as the Government have given them a good wooden sidewalk. The gate is shut at 9.30; "last post" at 10 p.m. and at 10.15 p.m. "lights out" is sounded. A sickly lamp attempts at night to show the homeward bound soldier where the gate is, being placed above it. As a beacon it is a poor one; as a light to dispel darkness it is not a success.

PERMANENT OFFICERS OF "B" COMPANY INFANTRY SCHOOL CORPS.—In the centre of this group is the commandant, Lieut. Col. D'Orsonnens, whose whole life has been passed in the military service of his country. He served as an officer in the Prince of Wales Rifle, in the Montreal Cavalry, and on the Niagara frontier during the time that Canada, owing to the American Civil War, kept a small volunteer force on the permanent frontier duty. Col. D'Orsonnens also served during both Fenian raids. He subsequently became Brigade Major at Quebec, from which place he was promoted to the position of Commandant of "B" Company, Royal School of Infantry. About a year ago he was appointed Deputy Adjutant-General of the 6th Military District. As a drill instructor Colonel D'Orsonnens is perfect, and as a Commandant of a School he is said to be about as perfect as it is possible for a man to be.

SURGEON-MAJOR F. W. CAMPBELL.—Dr. Campbell has had charge of the School since its formation, having been transferred to "B" Company, Infantry School Corps, from the Surgeoncy of the Prince of Wales Rifles, which he held for twenty-three years. He saw service during the Fenian raids of 1866 and 1870. Both officers and men speak highly of the attention and kindness of their surgeon. That he has performed his duties well is proved by the fact that, notwithstanding a great amount of serious illness, the Company has had only one death since its formation.

CAPTAIN CHARLES J. Q. COURSOL.—Captain Coursol is the son of the well known late C. J. Coursol, for many years M. P. for Montreal East and Police Magistrate. He was at one time a member of the Victoria Rifles, and was transferred to the Infantry School from the 65th Battalion, in which corps he held a captain's commission. He is an excellent officer and is beloved by his men.

CAPTAIN AND ACTING ADJUTANT CHINIC.—Captain Chinic began his military career as an officer in the 9th Battalion (Quebec). When the North-West Rebellion broke out, Lieut. Chinic was taking a long course (then a year—now nine months) at the School. A portion of this course entails attendance for three months at the Royal Military College, Kingston, and while there he was attached to the Battery of Artillery for messing. The Battery being ordered to the North-West he went with it and served with distinction. On his return he received his commission as an officer of the Infantry School Corps. He wears the North West medal. Captain Chinic is an excellent adjutant. He is well up in his work, and is admittedly a careful and painstaking officer.

QUARTER-MASTER AND HONORARY CAPTAIN FRENETTE.—Captain Frenette served with the 9th Battalion (Quebec) throughout the North West Rebellion, and, therefore, wears the North West medal. He is well up in his work, and does everything he can to make his fellow officers and the men comfortable.

“B” COMPANY, INFANTRY SCHOOL CORPS (ROYAL SCHOOL OF INFANTRY) ON PARADE.—In this engraving the Company with band are drawn up on the Barrack Square. The attached officers are between the band and the Company, and the permanent officers are on the right. As the Company is only allowed 100 men, it is never possible to put a strong company on parade. There is always to be deducted from any parade, guards, prisoners, men in hospital, cooks, officers' servants, mess men, etc. Those acquainted with the work these companies have to perform say that an addition of at least twenty-five, or even fifty, men is urgently needed.

OFFICERS' QUARTERS FROM THE BARRACK SQUARE.—This is the reverse view of the officers' quarters from that published in a previous issue. The barracks consist of two other wings occupied by the men and running at right angles to the officers' quarters. When originally built, a fourth wing completed the Barrack Square, but it was burnt down a number of years ago, and as it was an unsightly ruin, it was removed some six years ago. In the centre of the Barrack Square stands the flag staff.

HOSPITAL OF “B” COMPANY INFANTRY SCHOOL CORPS.—The original Hospital of the Barracks was built outside of the Barrack Square, facing the river. It still stands but is not occupied. It was made to contain eighty patients. Such

large hospital accommodation was not required for a force at most (with attached men) of one hundred and thirty. The government, at the suggestion of Dr. Campbell, fitted up the building at present used as an hospital. This was originally the commissariat store building of the barracks. It contains ten beds with room to increase to ten more. It is a model hospital in every way, and, in addition to two good sized wards, contains a surgery and the quarters of the hospital sergeant. Hospital Sergt. Cotton, who is in charge, may well feel proud of his neat and clean hospital. Surgeon Campbell says that he is a model hospital sergeant.

In conclusion, the Montreal volunteers take much pride in this military school; but while admitting its value where it is at present stationed, state that its value would be increased tenfold if it was where it ought to be—in the city of Montreal. They point to the visit which the School made to Montreal on the occasion of the review on the Queen's Birthday in 1889, and the enthusiasm which that visit created, as a proof of the assertion they make. The grounds which surround the officers' quarters have, under the horticultural guidance of Colonel D'Orsonnens, been changed from a scene of desolation to that of beauty, the like of which, it is claimed, is not to be seen at any other military school in the Dominion. In future issues we hope to publish illustrations of the other military schools.

The Commandant's residence occupies the north-east portion of the officers' quarters. The ground in front is arranged in a tasteful manner, and is luxuriant with flowers.

HOW A GENERAL WAS CAPTURED.

The only prisoner made by the English Reserved at Waterloo was a French general, whose capture was due to the cool head and stout heart of a young brigade-major, anxious for an adventure. Baron Malortie tells the story in his book, *Twixt Old Times and New*.

During the battle several regiments of cavalry and infantry were kept in reserve under a heavy fire from the French guns. Great was the havoc, and neither men nor horses relished the passive attitude to which they were condemned.

While a group of young officers in front of the left wing of the Reserve were discussing the situation, their attention

was attracted to a French general and his staff, all on horseback, who were looking through their glasses at the Englishmen.

One of the group was Captain Halkett, a young brigade-major, mounted on a thoroughbred. Suddenly he exclaimed: "I'll lay anyone five pounds that I will bring that French general over here, dead or alive. Who'll take my bet?"

"Done — done — done," shouted several officers.

The captain examined the saddle girths and his pistols. Then shouting "Good bye!" and, putting spurs to his horse, he dashed at a furious pace across the plain between the British and French lines. His comrades followed him with their glasses, not speaking a word.

The Frenchmen opposite seemed puzzled. Believing that the Englishman's horse had bolted, and that the rider had lost control of him, they opened their ranks to let the runaway through.

Halkett steered his steed so as to graze the mounted general on the right side. At that instant he put his arm around the Frenchman's waist, lifted him bodily out of the saddle, and, throwing him over his own horse's neck, turned sharp, and made for the English lines.

When the general's staff realised the meaning of the bold rider, they dashed after him. But he had a good start, and not a Frenchman dared to fire for fear of hitting the general. Half a squad of English dragoons, seeing Halkett chased by a dozen French officers, charged them. They opened their ranks to let Halkett through, closed them up again the moment he was in the rear, and then forced the Frenchmen to turn swiftly and seek shelter under their own guns.

Amidst the maddest cheering Halkett stopped in front of the British lines, with the general half dead, but securely clasped in his strong arms.

BLIGHTED LOVE.

By GEO. DEXTER.

CHAPTER III.

Determined at once to settle the whole business, Lieut. Marsh strode forth into the night air, that air very night. No one knew where he was going, except himself, and he wasn't particularly certain. Any way, he arrived there, there being the house of the Lieut.-Governor. In spite of the lateness of the hour, he boldly approached the front door, and demanded admittance and an interview with Maria Ann. He got both, metaphorically speaking, across the neck. When the officer arrived, Miss Muldoon was seated in her own boodwore reading "The Pocket Book for Soldiers," by Viscount Wolseley, she being particularly fond of this charming booklet. On being told by the slave that some one had come to see her, she concluded that the milkman had called for his money, and went down to tell him the usual polite lies, but what was her surprise to see Lieut. Marsh. "Maria Anne" said he, "wilstest thou not fly with me and be happy?" "I wiltest not," said the charming damsel. "Maria Ann," said the Lootenong, in a charmingly persuasive voice, husky with emotion (and whiskey), for your sake I have dared the wrach of your father, and jumped on your brother's chest, and am I to get nothink in return for this?" "Man" replied the lady, "ask me another." "Listen to me," said Mr. Marsh. "Eleven and three quarter years have I sought thee, and at length I mean to have thee, will you fly with me?" "Certainly," replied Miss Muldoon in a tone of polite sarcasm, "you supply the wings, and we will do the rest. On that you can bet your saccharine existence." (Miss Muldoon was far to culshawed to make use of the expression "bet your sweet life.") "Listen to me," said the officer, "I am a dangerous man, I am going to catch you; I can catch anything I want to. Even now I have caught the measles. I shall hire a villian to carry out my wishes in spite of Boileau or any other cau. I intend to go into another regiment where I can view the situation from afar, and also from your father. Once more will you levant with me? Miss Muldoon rose in wrath, and with all the dignity of her ancestral race; "I ain't a'going to do nothing of the kind. You go to Labrador and stay there." "Enough, enough," cried the baffled man of war, and he

dashed his two dollar stove-pipe over his crust and dug out for home. On arrival he sent his servant to the Barracks for a soldier named Bextor, well known as an employé of the secret-service, and had a lengthy interview with him. The doors were closed, but from the number of bottles removed next day from the room, it is evident the proceedings were protracted. Excitement grew intense next day when it became known that Bextor had obtained leave to go to Klondyke on private business, and had taken with him the maxim gun limber, the spare part box, the regimental goat, and Capt. Boileau's banjo. The last named officer performed all his duties as usual with a smile on his frontispiece, and made light of the whole thing. Alas, how fortunate it is that we know not the future. Had we known all that was going to happen, he would never have bought that last new six dollar suit, or gone about his duties with such a light heart. Lieut. Marsh seemed ill at ease like some strong men afflicted with stomach-ache, and amid the general excitement the only people who remained calm were the hospital sergeant and the weather.

Next time the whole thing will come out, in all its horror. In fact it will be so awful that will you have to put a piece of thin cloth over the page to read it through.

(To be continued.)

"MAXIME LABELLE."

A Canadian Voyageur's Account of the Nile Expedition.

BY WILLIAM H. DRUMMOND, M.D.

Victoriano : she have beeg war, E-gyp's de nam' de place—
An' neeger peep dat's leev'im dere, got very black de face,
An' so she's write Joseph Mercier, he's stop on *Trois Rivières*—
"Please come right off, an' bring wit' you t'ree honder *voyageurs*."

"I got de plaintee sojer, me, beeg feller six foot tall—
Dat's H'Englishman, an' Scotch also. don't wear no pant at all ;
Of course, de H'Irishman's de bes', raise all de row he can,
But nobodee can pull *batte u lak* good Canadian man.

"I geev you steady job for sure, an' w'en you get 'im t'roo
I bring you back on t' anadaw, don't cos' de man *un sou*,
Dat's first-class steamboat all de way. Kebeck an' Leeveerpool,
An' if you don't be satisfy, you mus' be beeg, beeg fool."

We meet upon *Hotel Dufresne*, an' talk 'im till daylight,
An' Joe he's treat so many tam, we very near get tight,
Den affer w'ile, we mak' our min' dat's not bad chance, an' so
Joseph Mercier he's telegraph "Correc', *Madame*, we go."

So Joe arrange de whole biznesse, wit' Queen *Victoriano* ;
Two dollar day—work all the tam'—dat's purty good *l'argent* !
An' w'en we start on *Trois Rivières*, for pass on boar' de ship,
Our fren' dey all say, "*Bon voyage*," an' den, Hooraw ! E-gyp !

Dat beeg steamboat was *plunge* so moche, I'm 'fraid she never stop—
De *Capitaine's* no use at all, can't kip her on de top—
An' so we all come very sick, jus' lak' one leetle pup,
An' ev'ry tam' de ship's go down, de h'inside she's go up.

I'm sorry spoke lak' dis, ma fren', if you don't t'ink it's so,
Please h'ax Joseph Mercier heself, or Aleck De Coteau,
Dat stay on bed mos' all de tam', so sick dey nearly die.
But lak' some great, beeg Yankee man, was never tole de lie.

De gang she's travel, travel, t'roo many strange contree,
An' ev'ry place is got new nam', I don't remember, me,
We see some fenny t'ing, for sure, more fenny I can tell.
But w'en we reach de *Azel Rivière*, dat's feel more *naturel*.

So many fine, beeg sojer man, I never see before,
All dress 'im on grand uniform, is wait upon de shore,
Some black, some green, an' red also, cos' honder dollar sure,
An' holler out, "She's all right now, here come de *voyageurs* !"

We see Boss *Generale* also, he's ride on beeg *chamea* .
Dat's w'at you call Ca-melle, I t'ink. I laugh de way she go !
Jump up, jump down, jump ev'ry place, but still de *Generale*'
Seem satisfy for stay on top, dat fenny an-i mal.

He's holler out on Joe Mercier, "*Comment va va Joseph*
You lak' for come right off w'it me, tak' leetle ride youself?"
Joseph, he mak' de *grand salut*, an' tak' it off he's hat,
"*Merci Mon Generale*," he say, "I got no use for dat."

Den affer we was drink somet'ing, an'sing "*Le Brigadier*,"
 De sojer feller's get prepare, for mak' de *embarquer*,
 An' everybody's shout 'im out, w'en we tak' hole de boat
 "*H. orav pour Queen Victoriaw!*" an' also "*pour nous autres.*"

Bigosh ; I do hard work meself, upon de H'Ottawa
 De *Gatineau* an' *St. Maurice*, also de *Mattawa*,
 But I don't never work at all, I'sure you dat's a fack
 Until we strike de *Neel Rivière*, an' *sapré* Catarack !

"Dis way, dat way, can't kip her straight," "look out, Bateese, look out!"
 "Now let her go"—"*arrête un peu*," dat's way de pilot shout,
 "Don't wash de neeger girl on shoe," an' "*prenez garde* behin'"
 "Wat's matter w'it dat rudder man? I t'ink he's goin' blin'!"

Some tam, of course, de boat's all right, an' carry us along
 An' den again, we mak' *portage*, w'en current she's too strong
 On place lak' dat, we run good chance, for sunstruck on de neck,
 An' plantee tam we wish ourseff was back on ole Kebeck.

De *seco. de* Catarack we pass, more beeger dan de Soo,
 She's nearly t'orty mile for sure, it would astonish you,
 Dat's place t'ree H'Irishman get drown, wan day we have beeg storm,
 I s'pose de Queen is feel lak *chry*, los' dat nice uniform !

De night she's very, very cole, an' hot upon de day,
 An' all de tam, you feel jus' lak you're goin' melt away,
 But never min' an' don't get scare, you mak' it up all right,
 An' twenty poun' you los' dat day, she's comin' back sam' night.

We got small bugle boy also, he's mebbe stan' four foot,
 An' frise t'ing ev'ry morning, sure, he mak' it toot ! toot ! toot !
 She's nice enough upon de day, for hear de bugle call,
 But w'en she play before daylight, I don't lak dat at all.

We mus' get up *immédiatement* dat leetle feller blow,
 An' so we start 'im off again, for pull de beeg *batteau*,
 De sojer man he's nice, nice boy, an' help us all he can,
 An' geev 'im chance, he's mos' as good lak some Canadian man.

Wall all de tam she go lak dat, was busy every day,
 Don't get moche chance for foolishness, don't get no chance for play,
 Dere's plantee danger all aroun', an' w'en we're comin' back
 We got look out for run 'im safe, dem *sapré* Catarack.

But w'ere's de war? I can't mak' out, don't see no fight at all !
 She's not'ing but *une Grande Pipniqu'*, dat's las' in all de fall !
 Mebbe de neeger King he's scare, an' skip anoder place,
 An' *pour la Reine Victoriaw!* I never see de face.

But dat's not ma biz-ness, ma fren', I'm ready pull *batteau*
 So long she pay two dollar day, wit' pork an' bean also ;
 An' if she geev me steady job, for mak' some more *l'argent*,
 I say, "Hooraw! for all de tam' on Queen *Victoriaw!*"

William H. Drummond.

DEPOT NEWS.

WINNIPEG, MAN.

ROYAL CANADIAN DRAGOONS.

The R. C. D. Dramatic Club are getting more popular than ever. The latest plays produced upon the boards were "Camp at Chobham" and "Brewer of Preston," with the following cast of characters:—

"CAMP AT CHOBHAM."

Mr. Cadbury	Sergt. O. C. F. E. Harris.
Capt. Damer	Private A. F. Budd.
Capt. Rosely	" W. H. Thorne.
Jones	Trumpeter T. J. King.
A. Rooster	Private C. Locke.
FannyMerrington (Cadbury'sneice)	Mrs. Inglis.

"BREWER OF PRESTON."

H. R. H, the Duke of Cumberland (Field Marshal of the Forces)	Private W. H. Thorne.
Foster (His General)	" A. F. Budd.
Lovel (The Duke's Aide-de-Camp)	" F. M. Whitlow.
Toby (A Sergeant in the Duke's regiment)	Corpl. R. Routledge.
Daniel Robinson (The Brewer of Preston)	" W. A. Dyer.
Sir John Carlisle	Private W. H. Thorne.
Bob (Foeman of Brewery)	Corpl. R. Ward.
Effie (Bethroted to Daniel)	Mrs. Inglis.

The "Press" comments on the above performance were highly yet worthily encouraging. The free and natural manner in which the performers rendered their respective parts showed that one and all were fully acquainted with the characters they were to personate. Such entertainments as these reflect great credit upon the squadron generally; and it brings before the public the intelligent class of men enlisted in the permanent units, which, as far as Winnipeg is concerned, are held in high estimation.

The Hockey Team has been putting up some excellent games this season, and it is almost a pity that the Dragoons did not enter into some of the Leagues. They met the Imperials (the "crack" team in the Bankers' League) a few days ago at the Barracks, which resulted in a somewhat easy win for the Dragoons by 9 goals to 4. The game was a very good exhibition of Hockey, says the *Free Press*, the play being fast, but at times rough. The Dragoons forwards

played well together, the play and passing of Qr. Mr. Sgt. Graham, Sgt. McMillan, Corporal Routledge and Private Thompson was good, and their shooting on the goal swift and true. Private Locke at cover point played well, and Captain Williams, at point, was a sure check, and scored two goals on long lifts; his rushes also proved very effective. Sergt. Timmis, in goal, proved to be a stone wall, and relieved well.

The Dragoons have been playing without one of their strongest forwards during the absence of Major Evans on leave, and his return will make the combination stronger than ever.

On Saturday, 5th February, the Dragoons met a strong combination picked from the Manitoba and Wesley Colleges, and, although the play was of a tight and hot character throughout, the soldiers defended their unbroken record by defeating their opponents by the small margin of 5 goals to 4. This was the finest exhibition of Hockey this season. On the afternoon of the same day the Sergeants' Mess defeated their Honorary Members by 9 goals to 6.

LONDON.

NO. 1 REGIMENTAL DEPOT, R.R.C.I.

Christmas passed very quietly at this station. The officers gave their Annual Ball, and on New Year's eve the Non-Coms. held their usual Smoking Concert and Supper, and celebrated the advent of the New Year in strictly conventional style.

The Officers' Ball on the 30th December was a great success. Those who know Wolseley Barracks will be interested to hear that permission had been given to cut a doorway from the Mess Room into the next passage; this, coupled with Captain Fiset's kind loan of his entire quarters, the loan of the Orderly room and of Colonel Smith's private office, gave plenty of room for the numerous guests. The ladies of the Barracks this year took more than usual interest in the arrangements; the supper table was decorated under the supervision of the Misses Smith, and was much admired, being a harmony of the Regimental Colours—blue, black and yellow. Too much praise cannot be given to Corporal Charman, the

Mess Steward, for his indefatigable exertions in providing and arranging for the supper. The decorations, though wisely limited to flags, bunting and evergreens, were most effective, and the thanks of all at this depot are due to two attached officers, Captain Sherman and Mr. Sutherland, who worked with a will to give the rooms an artistic effect. Quartermaster Sergeant Galloway also showed his administrative ability, for the main labour of direction as to the decoration was kindly and willingly undertaken by him, the majority of the officers at this depot being away during the preparations. We hear on all sides that it was altogether a successful dance, and we quite believe it, for no exertions were spared to provide for the proper entertainment of the guests.

By the kind permission of the Colonel and Officers, Mrs. Wadmore gave a children's party in the same rooms the following evening; about 80 little Londoners being present. The children were much pleased at being called to supper by bugle, and insisted on Bugler Walsh giving them a few more calls while they listened with breathless interest to his excellent and soldiery performance. The little Miss Wadmores made capital hostesses.

His Honor the Lieut.-Governor of Manitoba has been a guest of Lieut.-Col. Buchan. Our old friend "Sec" and Captain Thacker of No. 4 Depot were also guests of his, and were present at the ball.

Captain Carpenter has fully recovered from a dislocated elbow, which laid him up for a month.

Captain Fiset and Madame Fiset have already made themselves comfortable in the snug quarters formerly occupied by Major Hemming.

Captain Fiset proceeds in March to the R. M. College to gain the few marks he requires to give him a first class certificate.

We all congratulate Captain Denison on obtaining the appointment of A. D. C. to his Excellency. May his Majority soon be given him.

The following is an extract from Regimental Orders of the 31st December:

"The Commanding Officer, at the close of another year, has great pleasure in expressing his satisfaction at the almost perfect behaviour of No. 1 Company during the past twelve months. Commanding at this Depot has become a pleasure on account of the willingness of the men in performing their duties, etc., etc."

Truly, "a dinner of herbs where love is is more to be desired than the stalled ox and hatred therewith."

The above proverb goes to show that Solomon was not altogether unacquainted with Government contract beef.

The Barrack archway has long enjoyed the reputation of being the coldest spot in the city, as from whatever quarter the wind is blowing the sentry on No. 1 post has always an exceedingly gentle zephyr whistling around his ears. We are now in a position to defy the icy blasts of old Boreas, as we have a pocket edition of the burning fiery furnace into which Messrs. Meshach, Shadach & Coy. were pitched for the good of their souls; placed in position in the archway. Instead of the lute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, etc., the new piano up in the Sergeant's Mess supplies the (un)musical element in connection with the glowing image that Wadmore, the Major, has set up. Music has charms, but the performances of Corp. Blake-Forster, on this eighty guinea Brinsmead, are airs into the composition of which Orpheus was not consulted. Between the piano, hot potato stand and the tom-cat prowling around seeking what they may devour, the sentry's lot is a lively if not an altogether happy one. For some time past we have only been getting three nights in bed, and the novelty has worn off the situation in no small degree.

The game of Hockey, introduced by our new Quarter Master Sergeant, is an admirable one, and the effect that a game has on the ice affords Corp. Harry Millie grand opportunities of displaying his knowledge of rink construction. The ranks of the halt, maimed and the blind have been largely augmented since the introduction of the festive puck. Personally, we prefer to take our skating exercises on the Brickyard Ponds, where we are "far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife," and then, perchance we come a cropper, it is

done in "splendid isolation," and the unfeeling ones cannot gloat over our misfortunes. At the time of writing we have played no matches with outsiders, but the following would compose our team:—Q. M. S. Galloway, Ptes. Baldwin, Clark-son, Feele and Bugler Beales *et alia*.

We are happy to state that none of "ours" were in the City Hall disaster last month when the floor of that building collapsed with about 300 men on it, killing 21 and injuring about 125. Had any of our fellows been in the mess, it is altogether probable that, with our usual good luck, they would have come up smiling. It is to be supposed that soldiers are protected by the same Providence that looks after old people, children and drunken men. Some evil-minded people might insinuate that we, and the last named, are synonymous.

* * *

We are now nearly the ten under strength required by a recent order from Headquarters, and by permission the following N. C. O. S. and man re-engaged, Corp. R. Davies, Lce Corp. Locker and Pte. Nalliker.

The winter short course only number about twenty-one, which is about one-fourth of the usual winter complement.

* * *

The Hockey team started very well by winning their initial match of the season played against the Centrals, beating them by 3 goals to 2. The ice was soft, and to our heavy weight the puck sometimes proved a snare and a delusion; however, they were able to come home and say: "we are seven."

* * *

Since the last issue of this Magazine several of our comrades have left us. The first to go was Pte. Wm. Broughton, who transferred to the Royal Canadian Dragoons in Toronto, but finding that he could not put on the large amount of "side" which is the *sine qua non* to a cavalry man, he purchased his discharge, and is now sojourning with publicans and sinners at Windsor, Ont.

* * *

Pte. Wm. Groom, who has lately come into his inheritance, amounting to about five thousand dollars, has likewise bought out, but, instead of squandering his substance in riotous living, he is going to take unto himself a wife.

Pte. W. Minler, finding that there is more truth than

poetry in the title of Kipling's poem on Canada, has come to the conclusion that he will not dwell any longer

“Where equinoxial fervors glow

“And winter wraps the polar world in snow,”

and is now *en route* for Riverside, California, “Guid luck tae him.”

TORONTO.

NO. 2 REGIMENTAL DEP'T.—ROYAL CANADIAN DRAGOONS
AND ROYAL REGIMENT CANADIAN INFANTRY.

A rather uneventful winter has been 97-98 as regards this station. Dame Rumour was busy in the early part of it as to changes that were going to take place, more particularly affecting the R.C.Ds., but so far “as you were” is the order of the day. Long may it so continue.

Recent improvements in the regulations relating to Equitation Courses have resulted in increased classes of Infantry officers at the Royal School of Cavalry. In view of this fact, it seems a pity that a few extra horses are not added to the School to obviate the present necessity of curtailing the riding of the cavalry.

The Klondyke craze is far-reaching, several bold Dragoons having intimated their desire to try and exchange the yellow from the outside seam of their pantaloons to the inside. The report that a Squadron C.O. was thinking of joining a progressive Yukon party arose merely from being seen overlooking his Klondyke clothes under the idea that Winnipeg's sunny climate and riding schoolless station would shortly claim him.

Several instructive lectures have recently been given at the Military institute by officers of this station, namely, Major Lessard on “The Characteristics of the Three Arms,” Captain Denison on “Staff Duties,” and Captain Mowat, “Military Law.”

All congratulations to Major Cartwright on his well-merited appointment as A.A.G.; there can be no question that he will be the right man in the right place at H. Quarters.

Captain Denison, or, to be correct, since his appointment away from his regiment, Major Denison, most emphatically deserves his luck in being selected at A.D.C. to His Excellency. This was amply proved by the great success he made in that office at the time of the great Victorian Era ball.

Major Macdougall is still away in charge of a provisional School of Infantry at P. E. Island. Needless to say, he is greatly missed here, and all will be glad when he returns.

The sad death of Corporal Dame, R.R.C.S., cast a gloom over the community. A smart young soldier and good all-round comrade, such as he was, is not soon forgotten. Everyone of his brother soldiers, who were able to do so, attended the funeral. A memorable day it was for the sad ceremony, rain overhead, slush under foot, and a 14-mile march. The conduct of the band, hired for the occasion, in accompanying the party for such a short distance on the way home was noted, and not appreciated.

KINGSTON, ONT.

Profound sorrow and regret is universally felt at the sudden and terrible death of Lt. A. Flower March, R. C. A., which occurred at the General Hospital on the 8th of Feb. last. Lieut. March's death has cast a gloom over the whole city, where he was very generally known in Musical Circles. Lately he voluntarily performed the duties of choir master in St. George's Cathedral, and was also the means of organizing the Harmony Club, of Kingston, of which he was musical director. This and other musical events brought him in contact with numbers of people who would not otherwise have met him, which accounts for many expressions of sympathy and regret from quarters where his friends would least expect it. Within the Barracks he was very popular both professionally and sociably. His sudden and untimely death was the result of an accident when taking part in the weekly drive of the Tandem Club. Mr. March was not only driving an unusually high sleigh, but was sitting upon a high box-seat. When driving down Princess St. the sleigh appears to have tipped, projecting him off the seat and out of the side of the sleigh, his head striking a trolley pole, the force of the blow

fracturing his skull ; he died the following day, never having regained consciousness.

Mrs. March was driving in the sleigh with her husband at the time of the accident ; the terrible shock the latter was to her can better be imagined than described.

Lieut. March was the son of a Church of England rector at Erith, Kent, England. He came to Canada in 1893, and joined the 8th Hussars, New Brunswick, and served until 1895, when he resigned. Shortly afterwards he was appointed 2nd lieutenant in the 4th Hussars, Kingston, and on May 16, 1896, was appointed lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Artillery. He was a daring rider, a clever swordsman and an excellent musician. He was quite popular with both officers and men, and was always ready to assist in any musical gathering, church choirs and special festivals.

The funeral took place on the afternoon of February 10th. The cortege was very long, and was conducted with military honors. The casket was borne on the shoulders of six stalwart gunners of "A" Field Battery, R.C.A., to the Cathedral, and as it appeared in the doorway it was received with the funeral dirge, sounded by the trumpet-major.

The firing party, to pay the last tribute of war to the departed soldier, was composed of cadets from the Royal Military College. With slow tread and reversed arms they headed the cortege. The band of the 14th P. W. O. Rifles followed. The gun carriage bearing the body came next, with the charger of deceased, with reversed boots in the stirrups, the pall-bearers being Capts. Cunningham, Macnee, Major Kent, 14th P. W. O. Rifles ; Capt. Twining, Royal Military College ; Lieut. Labourne, 8th Princess Louise Hussars, and Lieut. King, C.A. The mourners were : Dr. Clements and Mr. Wray, father and uncle of the afflicted bride ; Mr. R. F. Harvey, and Capt. Nelles, Royal Canadian Dragoons Toronto. Next in order came a lengthy cortege of citizens, All the members of "A" Field Battery, the officers of the Royal Military College, 14th P.W.O. Rifles, Kingston Field Battery, attached officers of the School of Artillery, and Major Rae and Lieut.-Col. J. Hughes, 46th Batt. followed, according to rank and seniority.

At the cathedral the body was received by Very Rev. Dean Smith, Rev. G. L. Starr and the entire choir. "Peace, Perfect Peace" was the hymn sung as a processional. Psalm thirty-seven was chanted by the choir. After the beautiful

and impressive burial service had been read, Charles Harvey, in rich voice, sang "Just at I Am," the musical setting being the work of Lieut. March. The touching solo has never been heard to better effect, and its rendering was sweet. Following this a portion of the First Corinthians was read, the choir rendering the twenty-seventh hymn as a retrocessional.

The cortege re-formed at the cathedral door, the casket being placed on a gun carriage drawn by six chargers. The procession then slowly moved off, and headed towards Cata-raqui cemetery.

The gifts of flowers were extensive. The officers of "B" Battery R.C.A., Quebec, sent a beautiful wreath. Mr. March was married but eight months.

An Equitation Course has been in progress at this Station, the following officers being in attendance :—

Lt. Col. John Hughes, 46th Battalion

Major Rowe, 46th Battalion.

Major Kent, 14th Battalion.

The following officers joined for the Long Course Class on the 2nd inst :—

Capt. Fiset, R. R. C. I.

Capt. Nagle, 66th Battalion.

Lt. Van Stranburzee, 4th Hussars.

Lt. Skinner, 46th Battalion.

Lt. Musgrove, 42nd Battalion.

Lt. Gurney, 69th Battalion.

Lt. Lister, 27th Battalion.

Lt. Beckford, 9th F. B.

Lt. Corbett, 5th F. B.

Lt. Thompson, 13th F. B.

And 28 N. C. Os. and men are in attendance for a short Course.

Surgeon-Major Duff, 4th Hussars, has temporarily replaced Surgeon Lt.-Col. Nelson, R.C.A., as Medical Officer, the latter having recently been appointed Director-General at Head-Quarters of the Medical Staff.

OTTAWA.

Major General Gascoigne and Mrs. Gascoigne have left the capital for a brief visit to Washington, and possibly further south. They are expected back by the 20th of March.

We hear of a force of Militia, about to be sent to the Yukon under Major Evans, Royal Canadian Dragoons. It is to consist of Infantry and Artillery, and the Permanent force is to be largely drawn on. The force will number 200, Capt. J. Ogilvy, R.C.A., Quebec, is an officer who is going. The Medical officer is Surgeon Lieut. Foster, 68th Battalion.

Later information places the contingent as to consist of drafts of 33 men from each infantry Depot, a total of 122, the balance are from the Artillery and Cavalry. The rate of pay is to be double that the men are now receiving. The force is to be mobilised in Ottawa, at the end of March and will leave for their destination about the first week in April.

MONTREAL.

The recent Equitation Course at the Hutchison Riding School was in every way successful, and the second class which is now going on will be ready for examination in a short time. The officers who have passed the examination, Lieut.-Col. Labelle, 65th Batt.; Major McLean, 6th Batt.; Major Ibbotson, 5th Royal Scots; Major Cameron, 5th Royal Scots; Major Cook, Prince of Wales Regiment; Captains Armstrong, Ross, Meighen, Carson, Evans, Ibbotson, Cantlie, Royal Scots; Capt. Hamilton, Victoria Rifles; Capt. Peltier, 65th Batt.; Capt. Pagneulo, 85th Batt.; Capt. Finlayson, P. W. Regiment; Capt. Hodgson, 11th Batt.; Lieut. Cooper, 6th Batt.; 2nd Lieut. St. Louis, 65th Batt.; and Lieut. Patterson, 85th Batt.

A most interesting evening was passed at the Montreal Military Institute Saturday, 26th February, when Major F. L. Lessard, R. C. D., Inspector of Cavalry, lectured on the subject of "The characteristics and employment of the

three arms and the principles of attack and defence." There was a large gathering of officers. Lieut.-Col. Gordon, D. O. C., presiding, and the greatest attention was paid throughout.

The lecturer, after outlining the characteristics of the infantry, cavalry and artillery respectively, compared their employment and the methods adopted and the results attained in Frederick's era and Napoleon's era, and drew practical lessons showing the requirements of the present day, stating them concisely as (1) the utmost development of fire, (2) the highest possible mobility, and (3) the most difficult target for the enemy, and elaborating these by explaining the various formations and the proper times to adopt same in the employment of the three arms. The lecturer proceeding dealt with each arm in greater detail, drawing illustrations from famous battles, cavalry *vs.* infantry at Mars la Tour, cavalry *vs.* artillery at Marengo and Custoza and various others, concluding with an interesting discussion of the three arms combined, and the part played by each and the order in which they would engage an enemy in a chosen position, the defence of a position which an enemy attacks and the attack on an enemy who is himself advancing to the attack.

The lecture was copiously illustrated by maps, explaining the disposition of the several arms, which were drawn by some of the R. C. D. non-commissioned officers. They were excellently done, and were much admired by all present.

Needless to remark, it was a very hearty vote of thanks that Major Lessard received from Lieut.-Col. Massey and Lieut.-Col. Cole on the conclusion of his lecture. It is the earnest wish of all officers here that they have, before long, another opportunity of hearing Major Lessard lecture.

There was a very interesting event in the 2nd Regiment C. A.'s Armory on March 6, when the presentation of the prizes won by the regiment in 1896-97 was made. These consisted of the Governor-General's cup for first general efficiency in the Dominion, won by No. 1 Company; the Lansdowne cup, for second general efficiency, won by No. 2 Company; and the Turnbull shield, won by No. 1 Company, for 1st place in gun practice at the Island of Orleans. Although no formal invitations had been issued, a large number of guests, friends of the officers of the regiment, were present. The Minister of Militia came to Montreal for the occasion, and was assisted in making the presentations by

Mrs. Borden, and Mrs. Cole, wife of the commanding officer. An orchestra, supplied by the band of the regiment, rendered a programme of music, and altogether a most enjoyable evening was passed.

It is understood that the whole of the Snider, Enfield, Peabody and other rifles now in store have been sold to parties in the United States, the Enfields going to Hartley & Graham, of Connecticut. All these rifles will be shipped out of Canada.

Capt. Featherstone, of the 2nd Regiment C. A., has left for Egypt, where he will remain for some months on a business trip.

ST. JOHN'S, QUE.

NO. 3 REGIMENTAL DEPOT, R.R.C.I.

There has been a small epidemic of measles in the Barracks—strange to say confined entirely to men attached for instruction. The hospital has been set apart entirely for such cases, and a vacant Barrack-room has been converted into a temporary hospital for the ordinary run of cases.

Lieut. Gray, who joined the Regiment about four months ago and was posted to this depot, having obtained a commission in the Leinster Regiment, 2nd Batt. Royal Canadians, left us early in February to join his Regiment at Halifax. During his connection with this Depot he won the esteem and respect of the men, who much regretted his departure. The night previous to his departure, his brother officers entertained him at dinner, his health being proposed by Deputy Surgeon-Gen. F. W. Campbell. At the conclusion of the dinner, the whole Company were waiting outside the officer's quarters, and on his appearance he was loudly cheered. He spoke a few parting words, alluding to the new military field which was now opening to him—his regret at leaving the Station, and his very best wishes for every man in the Company.

The Citizen's Ball, largely given for the officers of the Depot, took place in the Town Hall on the evening of 8th February, and was a great success. Owing to the terrible weather but few came from Montreal.

Owing to the terrible snow storms which we have had this winter, connection with the Barracks and the town has with difficulty been kept up. No amount of snow-shovelling could keep open at times even an attempt at a road. Often "Tommy Atkins" had to wade through snow three feet deep, and sometimes over drifts six and eight feet high. For weeks drilling on the Barrack's square was an impossibility, and recourse had to be made to the miserable barn called a drillshed.

The hitch which has apparently taken place re the removal of the Company to Montreal—so confidently predicted in your last number, has put quite a damper on the spirits of the men, who are tired beyond measure of the monotony of this Station.

The following officers are at the Depot for a short course of instruction: Lieut. McLeod, 58th Batt.; 2nd Lieuts. Richardson, Moffat, Whitehead, Westover, Seale, 79th Batt.; Macintosh, 50th Batt.; Bisailon, 85th Batt.; Loomis, 53rd Batt.; Le Tarte, 81st Batt.; Poisson, 80th Batt.; Blondin, 80th Batt.; Turcotte, — Batt.; Beard, — Batt.; Wadleigh, 54th Batt.; Bowen, 52nd Batt.; Moore, 52nd Batt.

The Provisional School at Quebec is at an end. Lt.-Col. Vidal went from St. John's to conduct the examination, and Drill Sgt. Roberts, Sergt. Lapierre and Sergt. Lavoie have returned to No. 3 Depot again. Sergt. Miller is away instructing the 83rd Batt. at Joliette, and Corp. Shreeve in Montreal drilling the 5th Royal Scots of Canada, and yet it is said that the Permanent Force does not do the work expected of it.

During the absence in Quebec of the C. O., the Depot has been under the command of Capt. and Major R. Lyndhurst Wadmore. The N. C. Os. and men of the Depot, who have had the pleasure of serving under Major Wadmore before, were very much pleased at seeing him again, and regret his stay could not be longer.

The Amateur Athletic Association of the Depot held their Annual Dinner on the 21st of January, when some 40 red coats "were seen enjoying the good fare provided by

host Audelle of the United States Hotel. The chair was taken at 8 o'clock by Hosp. Sgt. Cotton, while the vice chair was filled by Bugle Sgt. Riquette. After dinner the usual loyal toast, "The Queen," was proposed by the chairman, then followed votes of thanks to the chairman, vice-chairman, Color Sgt. Long, etc., etc. A move was then made upstairs, and a most successful smoking-concert took place in which all the old favorites took part, Bugle Sgt. Riquette of course presiding at the piano. Altogether, a most enjoyable evening was spent, the proceedings terminating about midnight, with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the Queen."

If there be one thing more than another that people take every advantage of criticising and sneering at, it is the weather. If the winter happens to be a mild and open one they indignantly demand where the good old winters have gone to; if, on the other hand the weather is what is commonly called seasonable, they make sarcastic remarks about Samples and North Poles. Now the weather is all right in St. John's, but the climate is what fools a man. One minute it freezes a little, then it rains with a slight spit of snow, and then it snows with a slight spit of rain. Probably it freezes, and then the rain takes another look in. You start out to walk round the sidewalk and the first thing you know you have about a ton of nasty wet snow on the top of your crust, which isn't nice. The Government needn't bother about any training-ship; they can just wait till the spring when the snow goes and have one or two training scows in the Barrack square here. They could combine seamanship with Infantry drill, and Drill Sgt. Roberts could drill the whole thing from the windows of his own quarters.

No. 3 Company were well to the fore on the night of the 17th of February, on the occasion of an entertainment given by the Foresters of St. John's. The farce, "Box and Cox," was acted by Hsp. Sgt. Cotton as Box, Pte. Lincoln as Cox, and Sergt. Wright as Mrs. Bouncer. In addition to this, Sergt. Cotton sang "The Grass Widower" and the "Little Nipper"; Sergt. Wright sang "In the Heart of the Storm" and "The Soldiers of the Queen," and Pte. Lincoln sang something about Trinity Church and meeting his doom. The "boys" by kind permission of the C. O. took part in a

military tableau: "The Soldiers of the Queen," during which Sergt. Cotton burned red fire and nearly choked everybody. It is a curious and startling fact that as soon as the concert was over, measles broke out in Barracks, and Lincoln is quarantined.

Acting Sergt. G. W. Wright, Orderly Room Clerk No 3 Regimental Depot, was promoted Orderly Room Sergeant from the 20th of January.

QUEBEC, P. Q.

The March course of Equitation has commenced at this station, and is under the supervision of Major J. A. G. Hudon, R. C. A. The following officers are attending:— Capt. Routhier, 9th; Capt. W. Roy, 8th; Major Menger, 66th; Lt.-Col. Hudon, 89th; Major Weston, 66th; Capt. De la Salle, 92nd; Capt. Emerson, 52nd; Capt. A. Theriault, 89th; Capt. Frenette, 81st; Major Doyer, 92nd; Capt. H. A. L. X. Ritchie, 66th.

Captain H. A. Panet, R. C. A., leaves for England this month for a course of instruction in Field Artillery.

Lt.-Col. Wilson, Commanding R. C. A., at this station, is ill, and Lt.-Col. Farley is commanding officer temporarily.

The Company competition for the Eighth Royal Rifles has commenced. Three prizes will be given of the value of \$100, the first \$50, the second \$30, and third \$20. The attendance of all ranks in each company will be counted at every parade. Only those on the following (Government) strength will be counted:—Two officers, three sergeants, three corporals and twenty-nine privates, or thirty-seven of all ranks. Men over strength may be put on the establishment at any time to complete. No prize will be given to a company showing an average attendance of less than thirty of all ranks, viz., officers, section commanders and twelve files. No prize will be given to a company getting less than two-thirds of the 100 possible at company inspection. Three hundred points will be possible for aggregate attendance, and the points obtained will be added to those gained at company inspection, and the total

will determine the prizes. In case of any questions arising, they will be referred to the commanding officer, whose decision will be final.

The limit of the regular establishment allowed is fixed in order that all companies may have an even chance, each of them being able to score possibles by simply having everyone on the Government strength of the company present on parade. At the same time it is an advantage to have men over strength, as these may fill up any permanent vacancies in the regular strength at a moment's notice. But in no case will a man be counted, except when actually included in the fixed establishment, which cannot be exceeded. The qualifying conditions of attendance are by no means hard. No company that cannot turn out an average attendance of at least twelve files ought to have any chance at all. The conditions of company efficiency at inspection are also easy enough, all well drilled companies having always got over two-thirds the possible number of marks given. As each company has two lance corporals allowed it, it should immediately organize into four permanent sections, each under a sergeant, assisted by a corporal, and in this way a certainty of good work should be assured.

The *Military Gazette* has again another *truthful* (?) criticism of the R. C. A. This time, the Medical Department is all right, but the alarming death-rate (less than one per cent.) is owing to the officers *not permitting the men to grease their boots*. According to this wise sanitarium, a man may *march* in bad weather with impunity, but it is highly injurious for him to drill. Then he says :—"Cases of pneumonia have been traced to above causes." There has been no case of sickness in this Garrison that can be directly traced to unnecessary exposure in the line of duty, nor has there ever been an order forbidding any man to grease his boots as often as he wished to do so. On the contrary, the canteen keeps a supply of dubbing on hand at all times, which can be had for the asking, and every soldier is issued a pot of waterproof blacking, on joining, and is compelled to keep up the supply at all times. A visit to the Barracks will convince any unprejudiced man that "our boys" are well looked after, and that they are much better fed, clothed, housed, paid and amused than civilians in their class of life. The editor of the *Military Gazette* (who by the way is an ex-

cadet and should know better) would be of more benefit to the Force and country if he excluded such trash from his columns and filled the space with articles of encouragement to the Militia of all ranks, to take advantage of Schools of Instruction; call upon the Government to extend their sphere of influence, and provide and mount some modern ordnance for the defence of important points, such as Toronto, Kingston, Montreal and Quebec.

Among the floral tributes to the late Lieut. A. F. March at Kingston was a beautiful wreath from the officers of the R.C.A., Quebec.

The policy of drilling all the corps yearly, carried out since Hon. Dr. Borden took the office of Militia Minister, is to be continued during 1898 '99. It is urged to drill the Cavalry and Artillery one or two days beyond the twelve provided for.

There is a rumor current at Halifax that the Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians), now quartered there, may be sent out to Esquimaux. Another report has it that, after the detachment from the R. A. C. going from here to Halifax in May learn the drill with the modern guns instead of returning to Quebec, they will be sent out to the Pacific coast.

When are we to get the modern armament about which we have heard so much? It is said the delay is due to an enquiry, not yet answered, as to which is the best gun for Canada. Let us have at once the best hard-hitting, close shooting, easiest-worked gun in the service, best adapted for partially trained men, and, when the war is over, we will be better able to judge of its value. If we are to wait until what, in the opinion of mooning theorists, is the best gun, we will never have one. Our American cousins are fast putting their seaports in a state of defence.

It is more than three years since a G. O. changed the uniform and equipment of the R.C.A., and yet, on this station, the men are still wearing the old patterns. A costly magazine rifle has been obtained for the untrained infantry, while the Garrison Artillery still retains the single shooting Martini; two different arms and ammunition in the field, a fruitful source of disaster.

At the meeting of the Royal Military College Club of Canada, held on Saturday last in the rooms of the R.C.A. Institute, a resolution was passed congratulating Major R. Cartwright on his appointment as Assistant Adjutant-General of Militia. Major Cartwright is an ex-graduate and a member of the Club. A letter was read from Capt. K. J. R. Campbell, D.S.O., thanking the Club for the resolution passed last year congratulating him on his appointment to the Distinguished Service Order. A resolution of regret at the death of Lieut.-General E. O. Hewitt, C.M.G., R.E., first commandant of the Royal Military College of Canada, was also adopted, and ordered to be forwarded to the family of the deceased officer. The next meeting of the Club takes place in Toronto.

As already announced, the Annual Dinner of the Club was held in the Garrison Club Saturday evening, and was a great success. Capt. D. McPherson presided, and had seated on his right Lt.-Col. Pelletier, D.O.C., and on his left Lt.-Col. Wilson, R.C.A., the two official guests present. Speeches were made by Lt.-Cols. Pelletier and Wilson, Majors Dunbar and Benson, Capts. Turner, Dixon, Wurtele, and later by Capt. Thacker and many others.

Lieut. Levasseur has replaced Capt. Trudel in command of No. 2 Company of the Ninth Battalion. Lieut. Belleau has replaced Capt. Stein in charge of No. 5 Company, and Lieut. Cloutier takes over Capt. Roy's command. A non-commissioned officers' class in connection with the Ninth is now going on, which is largely attended. Several new officers will shortly be added to the strength of this Corps, and Lieut.-Col. Evanturel is determined to make the Corps second to none in this district.

The services of Capt. Thos. Argue, Quartermaster of the Eighth Royal Rifles, are not to be lost to the battalion to which he has been so long attached, and is such a useful member. Notwithstanding that Capt. Argue has reached the age limit provided for in the militia regulations for officers of his rank, representations at Ottawa have had the effect of making an exception in his case, which will thus obviate the necessity of a severance of the link which has for many years bound him to the Eighth. Capt. Argue is still well qualified

for his rank, and it is to be hoped will retain it for many years to come.

A meeting of officers in connection with the mobilization scheme was held in the R. C. A. Institute, Wednesday evening, and was attended by the following officers:—Lt.-Col. Pelletier, Lt.-Col. White, Lt.-Col. Jones, Capt. Fages, Capt. Turner, Capt. Ouellet, and Capt. Wurtele, R. O.

Lt.-Col. Vidal and Capt. Chinic, R. R. C. I., have left town for St. John's, and Capt. Fiset for London, Ont., having concluded their work here in connection with the provisional class for infantry officers. Col. Vidal expressed himself as well pleased with the work of the school.

The Hop on the Citadel on the 28th February, notwithstanding the howling storm, was a big success in every way, the Company only separating at 4 a.m.

Major Imlah, R. C. A., has been on the sick list for some days past, but now is convalescent.

On the 31st of January Lieut.-Col. Laurin delivered a very interesting Lecture on the history of the 87th Battalion. The lecture was given in the rooms of the Battalion on St. John Street. Lieut.-Col. Pelletier, D.O.C. Military District No. 7, and a number of prominent Military Officers were present.

The many friends of Mr. Arthur Cecil Dean, grandson of Robert Hamilton, Esq., will be pleased to learn that he has been recommended for a commission in the Imperial army. Mr. Dean is a graduate of the Royal Military College, Kingston.

Capt. Duplessis has been transferred from No. 2 to No. 1 Company Royal Canadian Artillery.

The R. C. A. Quadrille Club gave a most enjoyable Ball on the 21st inst.

The long course class at the Citadel have been instructed in the mechanism and drill of the six pounder quick-firing gun.

Major Rutherford and Capt. Panet, R.C.A., recently took a successful flash-light photograph of the Gymnasium, as decorated for one of the Hops of the R.C.A. Quadrille Club.

The following Officers have been granted equitation certificates at the R. C. A., Quebec, viz :—Lieut.-Col. Fournier, 17th Batt., Lieut.-Col. Dussault, 81st Batt., Lieut.-Col. Laurin, 87th Batt., Lieut.-Col. Landry, 61st Batt., Major Lemieux, 61st Batt., Major Roy, 87th Batt. Capt. Panet, R.C.A., had charge of this class, and a new class under his direction opened on the 1st of February, and consists of the following Officers, viz :—Lieut. Col. Ward, 55th Batt., Major Griffiths, 75th Batt., Major Belcher, 68th Batt., Major Twining, 63rd Batt., Major Rousseau, 80th Batt., Lieut. Gauthier, 89th Batt.

ONE CONSOLATION.

A troopship returning from Bombay had reached Malta when shouts were heard of "Man overboard." An Irishman, who happened to be close by, yelled out "Phuy don't yer shiwm?" "I can't," replied the drowning man. "Well, said Pat, "yez have an illigant chance to learn now."

JOCULAR.

A private was being tried for stealing a pair of boots from a shop in Whitechapel.

Said the judge (to the witness who captured the prisoner) : "What did he say when you caught him?"

Witness : "My lord, he said that he took the boots for a joke."

Judge : "How far did he carry the joke?"

Witness : "About forty yards, your lordship."

Judge : "Three months' hard labour."

REAL IRISH.

Sergeant (shouting down to private who has fallen out of a first floor window) : "Murphy, are you kilt entirely?"

Murphy : "Not kilt, sergeant, but knocked spacheless."

HE DID'T KNOW THE "RETIRE."

On the morning of the 22nd of July, 1839, a British army was under the citadel of Ghuzni. There was only one gate unblocked by masonry, and during the ensuing night the British force, moving round the city, got into position opposite the old Cabul Gate. Before day-light some sappers, creeping forward, laid and fired powder-bags in the gateway. As the powder exploded, the massive gate disappeared, and the walls fell inwards. One of the sappers, running back to where the main body of the assaulting column (13th Light Infantry) was halted, reported: "The passage is choked with fallen masonry; the forlorn hope cannot force it." On this an officer ordered Bugler Luke White to sound the "Retire!" He replied: "The 13th don't know it," and blew the "Advance." The battalion moved on, and, the forlorn hope rushing in amongst smoke and flames, the fortress was carried after half-an hour's fighting.

FISHING FOR HONEST OPINION.

The best of us sometimes fall into traps and scrapes when least expected. The residents at Court are not exempt from this danger, and it was most humorously exemplified at B——Palace some years ago. A most distinguished and illustrious personage sometimes employed herself by making verse to amuse the royal children. The amiable lady in question had just completed a couplet, of which she herself had but an indifferent opinion, when Colonel P—— entered. "See, colonel," said the amiable mother, "what trash they send me to read." The hon. colonel, having read it, said, "your M——y is perfectly in the right; it is so." "Did you *ever* read anything so vile?" "Never, upon my word." "I am happy you tell your mind candidly. I wrote it myself." "Your M——y!" said the colonel, in confusion, "I read it very hastily." "No, no, colonel first thoughts are commonly the best. I agree with you, and I shall, therefore, commit the poem to the flames."

EDITORIAL.

We publish in another portion of the Magazine a sketch of the formation in 1883 of the Infantry School Corps, now the Royal Regiment Canadian Infantry. The article appeared nearly ten years ago in the *Illustrated Weekly*, published in Montreal under the name of *Dominion Illustrated*. It contains a brief sketch of the original officers of the company stationed at St. John's, and is reproduced by us with a view of preserving in a Military journal what must in years to come be an invaluable historical sketch.

Just as we are going to press, the Minister of Militia has made another move in connection with the establishment of a Regimental Depot and Military School in Montreal. Through his secretary Capt. Benoit, he has written to the City of Montreal, asking if the Council would be willing to donate the \$25,000 which it voted conditionally in 1894, for the establishment of a Military School, to be used unconditionally *i.e.*, toward the cost of Permanent Barracks. The letter was referred to the Finance Committee, who we hope will give a favorable reply.

Orders have been received at the various Regimental Depots of the Permanent Force to recruit, so as to replace those who go on the Klondike expedition.

The Earl of Aberdeen has been gazetted Hon. Lieut.-Col. of the Governor General's Foot Guards.

Capt. Alex. Thos. Ogilvy of the 3rd Field Battery, Montreal, has been gazetted a Lieut. in the Royal Canadian Artillery and has been posted to "A" Battery, stationed at Kingston.