

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

A Weekly Journal devoted to the Interests of the Active Force of the Dominion.

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## Current Topics.

A GRATIFYING recognition of Lieut.-General Sir Fred. Middleton's services as officer commanding the militia of Canada, has just been made by the extension of his term of office, for two years it is understood from the time of its natural expiration, July 1889. General Middleton having been retired from the active list of the Imperial service, the British authorities were consulted as to whether or not this should debar him from continuing to serve in Canada, and it is with their concurrence that the Canadian government have taken or are about to take the action indicated above. This ought to be a matter for congratulation throughout the Dominion. General Middleton has had exceptional opportunities for making himself thoroughly familiar with our militia force and its needs, and, as we have before contended in these columns, it would be a great pity to lose his services just now when they have become specially valuable, and so many reforms he has recommended still remain to be further urged or executed.

A GOOD friend of the volunteer force passed away at Ottawa on Sunday last, in the person of Lieut.-Col. George Hugo Perry, who died at the advanced age of seventy years, from the effects of a cold contracted not many weeks ago. The deceased was born in the County of Wexford, Ireland, on December 17th, 1817, and in his boyhood served as midshipman in the Royal Navy. He then took up engineering, and for a time studied under Sir John MacNeill in Dublin. After having distinguished himself in his profession in Great Britain he came to Canada in 1852, and after a few years became engaged in a survey of the Ottawa River, the impression then formed of the destiny of this great waterway inspiring his constant advocacy ever since of the Ottawa Ship Canal scheme. Amongst other positions he held, he was for some years City Engineer of Ottawa.

AT the time of the first Riel rebellion, Mr. Perry was entrusted with the arduous and delicate duty of superintending the transport of provisions and munitions of war through United States territory for the use of the troops under Col. Garnet Wolseley, and in appreciation of the manner in which he acquitted himself on this occasion he was given the rank of Major. Last year the honorary rank of Lieut.-Colonel on the retired list was conferred on him as a special case. The deceased took a very active interest in the organization of what has since developed into the volunteer force of the Ottawa district, and he was also one of the original promoters of the Dominion Rifle Association. For a long time he rendered valuable gratuitous services as editor of the now defunct *Volunteer Review*, and the CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE has

been indebted to him for many favours of a similar nature. The deceased leaves a widow and three children, the latter being Mr. Chas. E. Perry, of Victoria, B.C., Mrs. R. Dawson, of Toronto, and Mrs. Bliss, wife of Rev. C. V. F. Bliss, of Mattawa.

REFERRING to the contemplated fortification of Imperial forts and coaling stations, Mr. Goschen, Chancellor of the Exchequer, stated in his budget speech to the British parliament this week that it was the intention to meet the expenditure by utilizing the dividends from the Suez canal shares. This amounts to £570,000 yearly, and is sufficient to make provision for an immediate loan of £2,300,000 to meet the proposed expenditure on these fortifications. The chancellor is able this year to show a surplus of upwards of two million pounds, the largest since 1874.

TO add interest to the weekly practice of the riflemen, would it not be well to arrange for a series of simultaneous matches, such as we occasionally read about as taking place in India? Association teams from the principal cities might contribute each a few dollars and thus procure a trophy worth winning as the result of the series, which might include say monthly matches for three or four months of the shooting season. Each team would shoot upon its own range, and the official record of the scores would be transmitted to the governing centre agreed upon. Of course varying conditions of wind and weather would make results more or less a matter of luck, but the interest would be in no wise diminished, and the greater general interest taken the greater will be the number of volunteers who will take the trouble to learn to shoot well. We invite comment on the above crude suggestions, which are made with a view to eliciting an exchange of opinion on the subject.

THE annual report of Commissioner Lawrence W. Herchmer, on the North-West Mounted Police, has been issued, and a valuable map of the North-West, showing the Police patrols, has been distributed with it. The semi-military nature of this fine body makes its affairs of special interest to our readers, and those who may be able to secure a copy of the report will find its contents exceedingly interesting. A new element has been introduced in the patrols lately in the engagement of some full-blooded Indians as scouts. These are reported to have so far done very good service, being invaluable as trailers, and able and willing to travel excessive distances in an almost incredibly short space of time. The Commissioner recommends increasing the number of these scouts.

ILL-NATURED criticisms of the force for having as alleged lost the "dash" characterizing it in its early days, the Commissioner makes this reference: "The Police have been frequently blamed for not displaying their old firmness and dash when dealing with criminal Indians, but it must be remembered that in the old days the Indians could only retaliate on the Police themselves, and on a few traders quite able and only too ready to take care of themselves. Now-a-days the people are scattered all over the country, and rashness on the part of the Police might at any time result in the murder and insult of settlers and their

families. There is no deficiency of pluck in the force I have the honour to command, and when necessary and advisable I have no doubt the same dash will be found as formerly."

**E**NFIELD revolvers and Winchester carbines are the arms carried by the Mounted Policemen. The revolvers give satisfaction, but with the carbines the case is different, as shown by the following quotation: "The Winchester carbine, so long the favourite arm with western prairie men, is not giving good satisfaction in the force; the ease with which it gets out of order and its liability to break off at the stock are serious drawbacks to its efficiency. The advantages of the magazine in this carbine are quite neutralised by the difficulty experienced in keeping it in order, and the great temptation it offers, especially to young recruits, to waste their fire. For a military weapon the trajectory is very much too high. A good many of the first issues are gradually wearing out, and I would suggest as soon as it can be settled which is the best carbine now made, one division be supplied with it; when, if satisfactory, it can be issued to the rest of the force."

**Militia General Orders (No. 5), of 23rd March, 1888.**

**No. 1.—ORIGINAL COLOURS OF THE Tenth FOOT,**  
Now the 1st Battalion of the Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians).

The original Colours of the 1st Battalion of "The Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians)" having been received from the officer commanding that battalion, through the High Commissioner and the Secretary of State for Canada, His Excellency the Governor-General in Council has selected the Library of Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, at Ottawa, as the final resting place of these Colours which form so interesting a link in the historical connection between Her Majesty's army and this portion of the Empire; and it is directed that a copy of the letter from Lieut.-Col. Collum, accompanying the transmission of the Colours, be published, as follows, for general information, more especially of the Militia Force of the Dominion:—

"From Lieut.-Col. L. J. Collum, 1st Battalion Leinster Regiment, to the High Commissioner, 9 Victoria Chambers, London, S. W.

"BELLEVUE, ENNISKILLEN, IRELAND,  
"3rd September, 1887.

SIR,—On behalf of Lieut.-Col. D. W. Mackinnon, commanding, and the officers, non commissioned officers and men of the 1st Battalion Leinster Regiment (The Prince of Wales' Royal Canadians), I have the honour to hand to you the original Colours of the Corps for the acceptance of the Dominion Government.

"These Colours were presented to the regiment at Shorncliffe, in 1858, by H. R. II. the Prince of Wales, being his first public act. This honour was conferred on the corps in consideration of the loyalty of the Dominion of Canada to Her Majesty the Queen and the mother country in their hour of need arising from the Indian mutiny, in raising and equipping the corps at the expense of the Dominion and presenting it to Her Most Gracious Majesty, whose jubilee we this year celebrate.

"We hope that in the acceptance of these our first Colours, the inhabitants of the Dominion of Canada will feel that our attachment to the country of our origin is unabated, and that we should always feel it an honour were the ties of our connection bound closer by the renewal of the recruiting and domiciling of one of our battalions permanently in Canada, on the linked battalion system, where some portion of the regular army is always required; were it consistent with the views of the War Office of this country and that of the Dominion of Canada; it would probably be of no small advantage to the military strength of the Dominion in having a constant supply of trained officers, non-commissioned officers and men to pass to the militia and volunteer battalions, and under the present short service system would afford a popular field to her adventurous sons, many of whom now pass as officers to other battalions which have no connection with the Dominion.

"The honour of handing to you these first Colours devolves upon me by the desire of Lieut.-Col. D. A. Mackinnon and the officers and men of the battalion, whose representative I am, being the senior officer who served with the corps prior to its being linked with the then tenth Regiment.

"The Colours will be duly handed to you by Messrs. Wolff and Harris, in whose care they are. Please acknowledge their receipt and also this letter.

"LUCIUS J. COLLUM, Lieut.-Col.,  
"1st Leinster Regiment."

**No. 2.—COMMISSIONS IN THE IMPERIAL ARMY TO ACTIVE MILITIA OFFICERS.**

The following amended regulations, on the subject of the six commissions in the cavalry or infantry of the line which the Imperial Government agree to grant annually to officers of the active militia of Canada, are hereby substituted for those published in No. 5 of General Orders (21), 23rd December, 1887, viz.:—

1. Commissions in the cavalry or infantry of the line will be granted to officers (who are bona fide colonists) of the local military force of certain colonies, to be specified from time to time, under the conditions hereinafter prescribed as to age, physical and moral fitness, length of service in the Colonial forces, literary and military qualifications, and a general eligibility for the position of an officer in Her Majesty's regular forces.

2. A candidate will be required to have served at least 15 months as an officer in the local military force of the colony from which he is nominated, and must have attended two annual trainings, or have seen active service in the field. A certificate to this effect from his commanding officer must be attached to the candidate's papers.

3. The candidate must be within the ages of 19 and 22 on the 1st January of the year in which he is allowed to present himself for the examination hereinafter specified. A certificate of birth, or a declaration of his exact age, made by the candidate's parents or guardian before a magistrate, must be attached to his papers when forwarded to the War Office.

4. He will be required to undergo an inspection by a medical board, to be convened by the Governor of the colony, or other proper authority, and will not be allowed to proceed further with his candidature unless certified by such board to be physically qualified, in all respects, for a commission in the army.

5. An intending candidate must apply for a nomination to the Governor, through his commanding officer, or such other channel as the Governor may prescribe, in sufficient time to allow of arrangements being made for his undergoing the military examination before he has exceeded the limit of age specified in para. 3.

6. A candidate will not be allowed to enter upon his examination until he has satisfied the Governor of the colony, in which he is serving, that he is of good moral character, and, in all other respects, a fit and proper person to hold a commission in Her Majesty's army. A certificate from the Governor to this effect must be attached to the candidate's papers when they are forwarded to the War Office.

7. The candidate will be required to undergo a qualifying literary examination in the following subjects:

- (1.) Mathematics—viz.: (a) arithmetic, including vulgar and decimal fractions, proportion, and simple interest; (b) Euclid, Book I.; (c) algebra, up to and including simple equations.
- (2.) French, German, or some other modern language; the examination being limited to translation from the language, and grammatical questions.
- (3.) Writing English correctly, and in a good legible hand, from dictation. English composition, tested by the power of writing an essay, letter or précis.
- (4.) The elements of geometrical drawing; including the construction of scales, and the use of simple mathematical instruments.
- (5.) Geography.

In addition to the foregoing, the candidate will be required to select and qualify in two, and not more than two, of the following subjects:

- (a.) Mathematics—viz., algebra, up to and including the binomial theorem; the theory and use of logarithms; Euclid, Books I to IV and VI.; plane trigonometry, up to and including the solution of triangles; and mensuration.
- (b.) Classics (Latin or Greek).
- (c.) English history:—General.
- (d.) Freehand drawing.

8. The candidate will be exempted from the above examination, except in geometrical drawing, if he can produce a certificate from the proper University authority that he has taken his degree in Arts, or has passed the examination for the degree of B.A. or M.A., at one of the following Universities, viz.: Oxford, Edinburgh, Cambridge, St. Andrews, Durham, Glasgow, London, Aberdeen, Dublin, the Royal University, Ireland, or from one of the chartered Colonial Universities; or if he has passed one of the University examinations specified below, viz.: Oxford, "Moderations"; Cambridge, "the Previous Examination"; Dublin, "the Final Examination of the Senior Freshman Year," or, "the Final Examination of the School of Engineering"; Durham, "the First Year's Examination"; The Royal University Ireland, "the Second University Examination in Arts or the second professional Examination in Engineering"; Scotch Universities, "the Examination for Candidates for the Army"; London University, the "First Examination" for the degree of B.A., LL.B., or M.B.; or if he has passed some other test which is accepted by the University as exempting from the above examinations. An equivalent examination at one of the chartered Universities will likewise be accepted as a sufficient ground for exemption.

9. The subjects of the military examination and the maximum marks obtainable in each subject will be as follows:

	Marks.
1. The Elements of Field Fortification.....	600
2. Military Topography.....	600
3. The Elements of Tactics.....	600
4. Military Law.....	600

In order to qualify for a commission, a candidate will be required to obtain 25 of the marks in each subject, and 75 of the aggregate.

The scope will be that embraced by the synopsis of the course of instruction (in the subjects specified in paragraph 9) at the Royal Military College. There will, however, be no practical out-of-door examination in any subject. The text books will be those in use at the time of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, which, for the present, are as follows:

- 1. The Elements of Field Fortification. { Phillips' Course of Artillery and Fortification.
- 2. Military Topography..... { Official Text Books of Military Topography.
- 3. The Elements of Tactics..... { Field Exercises.  
Clery's Minor Tactics.
- 4. Military Law..... { Army Act.  
Queen's Regulations.  
Elements of Military Administration and Law (Boughey).

10. Sets of papers for the examination in both the literary and military subjects will be forwarded in due course, in sealed envelopes, to the Governors of the respective colonies, who will convene boards, the duty of which will be to see that the papers are fairly worked by the candidates. The papers will then be returned without delay to the Director-General of Military Education, War Office, London, for adjudication.

The Governor of the colony will notify to the War Office, through the Secretary of State for the Colonies, as early as possible in each year, whether he has any duly qualified candidates to nominate, and will, at the same time, state how many sets of papers he will be likely to require for their examination.

The literary examination will be held in the month of July.

11. In the event of the number of candidates nominated by the Governor in a colony at any time exceeding the allotted number of commissions, the selection will be decided by competition in the military portion of the prescribed examination.

**No. 3.—REGULATIONS AND ORDERS FOR THE MILITIA, 1887**

*Organization—Officers.*—The following has been added as sub-paragraph (2) to paragraph 54 of Regulations and Orders, 1887:

"(2) When an officer is permitted to retire retaining rank it is to be understood that it is the rank then held by him, provided he has had sufficient service therein; a step of rank on retirement will not be granted."

*Stores.*—The following has been added as sub-paragraph (2) to paragraph 761., Regulations and Orders, 1887:

"(2) When an officer makes requisition for the return of articles into store, he must set forth on the face of the requisition the reasons why the articles require to be so returned."

#### ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MILITARY INSTRUCTION.

*Discipline.*—The following has been added as sub-section (3) to paragraph 1,042 of the Regulations and Orders, 1887:

"(3) If an attached non-commissioned officer or man leaves the school before completing his course, he will be required to pay a contribution in addition at the rate of \$2 per month for the unexpired portion, in diminution of the cost of the serge clothing issued for his use while in attendance."

#### No. 4.—PERMANENT CORPS.

*Returns and Allowances.*—Paragraph 481 (at page 10) "Regulations for the Permanent corps, 1886," is hereby amended by omitting, in tenth line, all after the words "allowed by regulations," and substituting the following as sub-paragraphs (2) and (3):

"(2) Subject to the regulations for the issue of forage to the militia, the commandants of the schools, and the officers on the permanent strength of the Cavalry School Corps, "A" and "B" Batteries Regiment Canadian Artillery, and the Mounted Infantry School Corps, will each receive forage for one horse, provided such horse is approved by the commandant and actually the property of the officer claiming forage.

"(3) Officers of cavalry and field batteries, only, attached for a course of instruction will receive forage for one horse each, provided such horse is approved by the commandant as suitable, and available for drill and instructional purposes. Transport will not be provided for attached officers' horses."

#### No. 5.—ACTIVE MILITIA.

**British Columbia Brig. Gar. Art.**—No. 2 Batt.—To be capt., Lieut. P. F. Irving, R.S.A., vice Jones, appointed District Paymaster and Superintendent of Stores, Military District No. 11.

**Governor-General's Foot Guards.**—To be major, Captain and Brevet Major A. H. Todd, M.S., vice H. S. Weatherley, who retires retaining rank.

To be captains: Lieut. P. N. Thompson, M.S., vice A. H. Todd, promoted.

Lieut. N. O. Côté, G.S.I., vice Belmont Aumont, who retires retaining rank.

To be lieutenants: 2nd Lieut. F. H. Gisborne, S.I., vice Thompson, promoted.

2nd Lieut. C. F. Winter (late Sergeant Royal Fusiliers), vice Côté, promoted.

2nd Lieut. Walter Todd retires retaining rank.

**5th Batt.**—To be 2nd lieut. prov., Geo. Whitfield Cameron, vice Cantlie, promoted.

**8th Batt.**—To be paymaster, with honorary rank of captain: Thomas Henry Jones, vice A. W. Colley, who resigns.

**9th Batt.**—No. 1 Co.—To be lieut. prov., Sergt. Arthur Bloin, vice Hamel, transferred to Quebec Field Battery.

No. 4 Co.—To be 2nd lieut. prov., Sergt. Wilfred Lebel, vice Routhier.

No. 8 Co.—To be lieut. prov., Lieut. (prov.) Docile Brousseau, from No. 5 Co., 87th Batt., vice LaRue.

**12th Batt.**—No. 1 Co.—To be 2nd lieut. prov., Pte. Henry Baddley Cooper, vice McNaught, retired.

No. 8 Co.—2nd Lieut. Alex. E. Williamson resigns.

**35th Batt.**—No. 2 Co.—To be 2nd lieut., prov., from 20th March, 1883: Hugh Albert Kortright, vice Hamilton, promoted.

No. 8 Co.—Adverting to No. 3 of G. O. (12) 30th June, 1887, as amended by No. 4 of G. O. (15) 16th September, 1887, omit "2nd" in Sergeant Rathwell's appointment.

**42nd Batt.**—No. 5 Co.—To be captain, prov., James Craig, vice Caldwell, appointed paymaster.

To be lieutenant, prov., Charles McDowell, vice E. P. Comstock, out of limits.

To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., James Stoddart, vice Dunbar.

To be paymaster, with honorary rank of captain: T. B. Caldwell (formerly captain No. 5 Company), vice C. F. Fraser, who having relative rank of major retires with honorary rank of major.

**49th Batt.**—No. 6 Co.—To be captain, 2nd Lieut. A. H. Smith, R.S.I., vice Orr.

**53rd Batt.**—No. 3 Co.—To be Lieut., prov., William Memlaus Hopkins, vice F. H. Thomas, who resigns.

**59th Batt.**—The designation of this corps is changed from "59th Stormont Battalion of Infantry" to the "59 Stormont and Glengarry Battalion of Infantry," being the designation it had previously held.

**65th Batt.**—To be captain, Lieut. J. A. Villeuveuve, S.I., vice Roy, appointed adjutant.

**71st Batt.**—No. 8 Co.—This company having become non-effective it is removed from the list of corps of the active militia.

Capt. A. J. McGee, Lieut. John Mooney and 2nd Lieut. P. H. Gillmor are placed on the retired list retaining their respective ranks.

**75th Batt.**—No. 4 Co.—To be lieut. prov., Sergt. Harum George Whitfield, vice Andrews, resigned.

To be 2nd lieut. prov., Sergt. Baker Allen, vice Lane, resigned.

**86th Batt.**—No. 3 Co.—To be captain, prov., Narcisse Grenier, vice Emile Trudel, left limits.

To be 2nd lieut. prov., G. René Barthe, vice Joseph Jollette, left limits.

#### CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

Lieut.-Col. A. E. Curren, R.S.A., 1st Halifax B.G.A., from 10th March, 1888.

2nd Lieut. H. Flowers, jr., R.S.A., 1st Halifax B.G.A., from 24th Feb., 1888.

2nd Lieut. C. R. Reynolds, R.S.A., 1st Halifax B.G.A., from 27th Feb., 1888.

2nd Lieut. W. J. Stewart, R.S.A., 1st Halifax B.G.A., from 10th March, 1888.

2nd Lieut. W. P. Brown, R.S.A., 1st Halifax B.G.A., from 16th March, 1888.

2nd Lieut. Foster Elliot, R.S.A., 1st Halifax B.G.A., from 16th March, 1888.

#### No. 6.—CERTIFICATES GRANTED.

RANK, NAME AND CORPS.	Royal School.	Class.	Course.	Grade.	Percentage of Marks obtained		
					Written.	Practical.	Aggregate Percentage.
Capt. W. Buchner, 2nd Regiment Cavalry...	Cav	1	S	A	77	67	70
Lieut. J. K. Oswald, Royal School Mtd. Inf.	M. Inf	1	S	"	75	71	73
Lt.-Col. A. E. Curren, 1st Halifax Bde. G. A.	Art.	1	Sp.	"	85	87	86
Capt. W. A. Garrison, do do do	do	1	"	"	76	77	76
Lieut. J. Maxwell, do do do	do	1	"	"	82	86	85
2nd Lieut. C. R. Reynolds, do do do	do	1	"	"	78	80	79
do H. Flowers, jr. do do do	do	1	"	"	88	78	82
Capt. J. E. Curren, do do do	do	2	"	"	53	70	61
2nd Lieut. W. J. Stewart, do do do	do	2	"	"	67	66	66
do W. P. Brown, do do do	do	2	"	"	69	59	64
do F. Elliott, do do do	do	2	"	"	67	58	62

#### The Brave at Home.

THE maid who binds her warrior's sash  
With smile that well her pain dissembles,  
While beneath the drooping lash  
One starry teardrop hangs and trembles,  
Though heaven alone records the tear,  
And fame shall never know her story—  
Her heart has shed a drop as dear  
As e'er bedewed the field of glory.

The wife who girds her husband's sword  
Mid little ones who weep or wonder,  
And bravely speaks the cheering word,  
What though her heart be rent asunder,  
Doomed nightly in her dream to hear  
The bolts of death around him rattle,  
Hath shed as sacred blood as e'er  
Was poured upon the field of battle.

The mother who conceals her grief  
While to her breast her son she presses,  
Then breathes a few brave words and brief,  
Kissing the patriot brow she blesses,  
With no one but her secret God  
To know the pain that weighs upon her,  
Sheds holy blood as e'er the sod  
Received on freedom's field of honour.  
—T. Buchanan Read.

#### Correspondence.

[This paper does not necessarily share the views expressed in correspondence published in its columns, the use of which is freely granted to writers on topics of interest to the militia.]

#### CARTRIDGE BELTS FOR THE MILITIA.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

SIR,—I am indeed glad to see that the absolute necessity of "new equipment" for the men, in the event of another campaign in the North-West, is felt by at least one other volunteer. The plan he proposes is a good one, only the Police cartridge belt is of leather not of canvas, and does not carry enough ammunition. The U. S. Army "Campaign Belt" is of canvas and well made, and our people could not do better than have 5,000 of them in stock ready for issue. The next North-West campaign may not be so far away as some appear to think, and whatever our authorities have done, the other side have benefited by the experience of '85, and our work will be harder than before. I think the General—God bless him—was wise in '85 when he had the men relieved of all possible weight, and I hope that the same wisdom will again prevail, and that whatever our equipment, the kits will be carried on the waggons and not on the men, as long as it is at all possible, as Canadian horses are cheaper than Canadian volunteers, and you need your men fresh when you first feel the enemy.

Ottawa, 25th March, 1888.

CENTURION.

Torpedo experiments are to be conducted in secret near Toulon with a newly invented auto-mobile torpedo, believed to embody the so-called secret improvements of the Brennan, and with a submarine torpedo boat somewhat after the design of the Nordenfeldt, but smaller, being less than 60 feet in length, and of 6 ft. beam. The motive power is electricity. It is claimed that a sufficient supply of air can be carried to serve for five or six hours for the crew of 17 men.

A statement has been prepared at the U. S. Pension Office which shows that the average length of military service of soldiers in the last war who have during the last three months been granted "invalid" pensions, is two years, four months, and thirteen days. The average length of service of soldiers whose widows have been granted pensions during the same period is two years and eighteen days. The service of sailors in the navy for the same period averages one year, ten months, and three days. The average service of Mexican War claimants under the Act of June 29th, 1887, is shown to be one year and twelve days. In widows' Mexican War claims the service is shown to be one year and twenty-four days.

It is announced that a saving of 20,000,000 roubles is to be effected in the Russian budget for the present year and that the expenses of the army and navy have been reduced by 8,000,000 roubles. This might seem to be an assurance of peace were it not retrenchment has been forced upon the Russian Government. In 1886, the deficit was estimated at \$12,645,000, whereas it really amounted to \$25,950,000, to say nothing of an extraordinary deficit of \$56,300,000 besides. The annual deficit has been gradually increasing since 1867, when it was \$30,000,000, and the withdrawal of German credit during the past year has stopped the main source of the government's supply of borrowed funds. Economy, therefore, has become absolutely unavoidable, war or no war.

## GOSSIP OF THE MILITIA.

### Praiseworthy Activity Manifested at Leading Military Centres.

Annual meeting of officers of N. B. G. A.—A proposed band tournament—  
Office bearers for the Dufferin Rifles—The Vics' Model Hospital  
Sergeant—Fun with indoor target shooting in Montreal—  
Change in command of the M. G. A.—Testimonial to  
General Lord Russell—Promotions in the Foot  
Guards—Festivities of the 43rd Rifles—  
An exposition of lack of Equip-  
ment.—Miscellaneous Affairs.

A BAND tournament is on the tapis, the band of the 32nd Battalion proposing such an event to take place at Walkerton the first week in August next. Twelve hundred dollars in cash prizes will be offered for competition, and nothing will be left undone to make this tournament an event of the season.

The ladies of Sarnia are about organizing to get up a bazaar in aid of the funds of the 27th Battalion band.

Capt. Greville Harston, of the Grenadiers, Toronto, who is now in England illustrating to the War Office his system for converting the Martini-Henry into a repeating rifle, was amongst those presented at the Prince of Wales' levee held at St. James' Palace on the 7th March on the occasion of the celebration of H. R. H.'s silver wedding. The crush was tremendous, officers of nearly every regiment in Great Britain being present, as well as the Duke of Cambridge and all the high officers of the army and navy who could get there. Capt. Harston was presented by Lord Wolseley, Adjutant General.

#### Toronto.

IN the last GAZETTE I notice that No. 8 Company of the 71st Battalion has been removed from the militia, having become "non-effective." Why the authorities persistently disregard their own regulations, and call this company by a numeral instead of by a letter of the alphabet, they can best explain themselves. The 71st Batt. is one of those which have been waiting for many long years to have equipment completed. Is it any wonder that companies become non-effective? Whose fault, pray, that they do?

During General Luard's regime in Canada he issued a number of camp reports bearing directly upon what he saw at each inspection, as well as upon what he did not see. He told No. 8 district, in 1883, that "what now remains to be obtained is the necessary equipment; without serviceable saddles, the cavalry are unfit for the field," and the Major-General regretted to observe that much of the *saddlery was unserviceable*. The infantry, also, were wanting in the equipments necessary for service. Without, he said, the means of carrying a change of clothes, or of carrying or cooking their rations of meat, and without boots, however willing the men, their efforts on active service would be vain. He hopes, therefore, that to men who have proved their willingness and good conduct the necessary equipments may not much longer be wanting.

If General Luard had known in 1883 that in 1888 the equipment and saddlery in No. 8 district would still be in the same condition, if not worse, he would have, I contend, been justified in using very much stronger language.

At the drill of 1883, the saddlery of the 8th Regiment of Cavalry was old and some of it unserviceable. In the D. A. G.'s report for 1884, we read that "the pressing want of a fresh issue of saddlery has been pointed out in the proceedings of a board of officers, submitted to headquarters in July, 1883; also in the Report for 1883 of the late Major-General in command."

This is General Luard's report: "I was sorry to find the saddlery at the camp, Sussex, N. B., in bad order from its excessive age—so bad as to be likely to injure both horse and rider."

In the report of 1885, it is "the want of a fresh issue of saddlery continues to be much felt." In 1886 we are again reminded that the "accoutrements and saddlery are incomplete" and heavens above, the same old complaint still goes on, for in 1887 the authorities, the members of Parliament, the militia generally—but also not the public—are for the fifth time informed that the accoutrements and saddlery are still incomplete.

How many official applications have been made to get the accoutrements and saddlery I shall never know, but it is evident that a board of officers condemned the saddlery. General Luard knew the result of that board's sitting, he referred to the so-called saddlery in his official reports, and if applications were made during his time, which I am justified in assuming were made, he must have recommended the issue of new saddlery, being personally cognizant of the true state of affairs. Where then is the hitch? Whose fault is it, that the 8th Regiment of Cavalry have, up to the present day, been unable to complete accoutrements and saddlery which in 1883 General Luard tells us, in unmistakable language, were unserviceable?

You may want to tell me that the above is an isolated case. No, it represents the state of a number of corps. I would perhaps be nearer the mark if I said that it is a fair representation of the whole Canadian militia.

What was true in General Luard's time in No. 8 district is unfortunately true to-day. This is what the report tells us:

N. B. Garrison Artillery—Equipment incompletc.		
62nd Battalion,	"	"
67th	"	"
71st	"	"

Some companies of these corps were held in readiness during the North-West rebellion. Were they in a fit state to proceed thousands of miles?

We have just now the case of the York-Simcoe Battalion, which had knapsacks, the municipalities supplying the kits. Should their services be again required, would the men or the municipalities provide the kits, or would the whole thing come down to the regulations, the result being that "as the corps cannot comply with Para. 548, being deficient in kits, etc., the district staff officer cannot permit it to leave its headquarters?"

General Luard, in his camp report of No. 9 district, says: "The men in camp have attained a sufficient knowledge to be aware that without knapsacks or valises to carry a change of clothing, and without mess tins and water bottles to carry meat and water, they are not fit for active service." True, the men in camp may have attained that knowledge through experience, but not so the authorities.

During 1887 "canteens were served out to the remainder of the district. The 50-round pouch is no longer serviceable, and has been condemned in both my districts (Nos. 9 and 12) by the Regulation Board, the leather having perished and become rotten."

In his report for 1883, General Luard said, "Once more I submit that all un-serviceable equipment should be got rid of, and that every corps receive serviceable equipment, including boots and a serviceable head dress. We have, I believe, knapsacks and valises in store which suffer by being kept there."

Still knapsacks are not issued. Apropos of equipment in store, in store at Ottawa they have any number of carbine buckets. Would you believe that the Mooretown troop, 1st Regiment Cavalry, having no carbine buckets, went into camp last year without carbines, and had to be instructed at such times as carbines could be borrowed from other troops in camp.

And on a similar plan guards at camp are able to mount in marching order.

LINCH-PIN.

#### Brantford.

EVERYTHING, says the *Courier*, points to a decided military efficiency upon the part of the Dufferin Rifles this year. Great interest is being taken in the battalion. Capt. W. A. Wilkes, late of the Winnipeg 90th, has accepted the adjutancy of the regiment. Lieut. Christie and Ruddy go to C School of infantry this spring and Lieut. M. Ince to the London school.

On the 20th inst., the late Pte. Frank Rush, a member of C company, was buried with military honours.

At the annual meeting of the officers of the 38th Batt., the proceedings at which were reported in last week's issue, the election of office bearers resulted as follows:—

Patrons—His Excellency the Earl of Dufferin and Judge Jones.

President—Lieut.-Col. Jones; Vice-Presidents, Majors Rothwell and Jones; Secretary, Lieut. M. J. Ince; Treasurer, Major Rothwell.

Range Officers—Major T. H. Jones, Capt. R. R. Harris, Capt. H. F. Leonard, Capt. H. J. McGlashan.

Surgeon—Dr. Wm. T. Harris.

Auditors—Major Snarrt and Mr. T. S. Wade.

Finance Committee—Captains J. Stratford, J. H. McLean and Lieut. E. P. Park  
Executive Officer—Surgeon Harris. Executive Committee—Lieut.-Col. Jones  
Surgeon Harris and Capt. H. J. McGlashan.

Council—Lieut.-Col. Jones, Majors Rothwell and Jones, Surgeon Harris, Capt. H. J. McGlashan, Capt. H. F. Leonard and Lieut. M. J. Ince.

Subscription Committee—Capt. J. S. Hamilton, Capt. H. J. McGlashan, Lieut. E. P. Park, Lieut. W. G. Kilmaster, Sergt. J. Thompson and Mr. D. S. Henderson.

Coach—Mr. D. S. Henderson.

#### Ottawa.

SEVERAL changes amongst the officers of the Governor-General's Foot Guards are announced in the Regimental Orders issued this week. Brevet Major A. H. Todd, who for thirteen years has commanded No. 1 company, and now leaves it in the high state of efficiency which has characterized the company during his command, becomes junior major of the regiment, in place of Major H. S. Weatherley, who has retired on account of ill-health. Lieut. P. N. Thompson, who has risen from the ranks in the company, succeeds to the captaincy of No. 1, and second lieutenant C. F. Winter, receiving a lieutenantancy in regular order of regimental seniority, goes up a step in this company also.

Lieut. N. O. Cote, who has been an exceedingly popular officer of No. 6, takes command of No. 3 company, succeeding Capt. T. Aumont who after eleven years service as such retires retaining rank. Second lieutenant F. H. Gisborne becomes a first lieutenant, and 2nd Lieut. Walter Todd retires from the regiment, after upwards of four years' service, including the North-West campaign.

No. 3 company having become reduced to a skeleton, a complete re-organization has been determined upon, instead of any attempt being made to shake up and infuse life into the dry bones. Sergt. Isaac Heinrichs, of No. 6 company, has accordingly been appointed colour-sergeant, and it is expected that he will shortly be able to secure for Captain Cote such a company as will do no discredit to the battalion. Colour-Sergeant Heinrichs is the possessor of very high certificates from B Royal School of Infantry and as instructor to the non-commissioned officers' class has shown himself thoroughly efficient, while also his personal popularity is great.

Intimation has been received that the 14th Battalion of Kingston, who very hospitably entertained the Guards on the occasion of their visit to the Limestone city last Queen's birthday, may be expected in Ottawa next Dominion Day, when no doubt the courtesies will be returned with interest.

#### THE FORTY-THIRD RIFLES.

Amongst the eight teams of four men each entered for the tug-of-war at the athletic tournament of the O. A. A. A. on Thursday evening last, there were four from the military organizations, viz., one from the Field Battery, one from No. 5 company of the G. G. F. G., one from the Rifles Snowshoe Club, in connection with No. 1 Co., 43rd Batt., and one—the victor of the evening—from No. 6, the New Edinburgh Ward Company of the battalion. The first pulls were all closely contested except that between the Rifles' S. S. Club and Frawley's Business College, the Rifles being caught unprepared and pulled over in a jiffy. The Guards' downed the Field Battery, and No. 6 of the Rifles proved too much for the Oshkosh Toboggan Club, against whose team they were pitted. In the next heats, between the former winners, the Guards succumbed to the O. A. A. A. team, and No. 6 of the Rifles vanquished Frawley's. This left the final heat between the Rifles and the O. A. A. A., and the excitement rose to high water mark. When the teams got into place, and the word go was given, the O. A. A. A. men went down like a flash, and pulled the Rifles over. The latter protested they had not had a fair start, and the Association men promptly offered them another try. The teams got into position the second time. The word go was given, and the Rifles got down with six inches the best of the rope, and their opponents in a bad position, one man having slipped. A desperate two minutes pull followed, the Association men slowly gaining, and when "time!" was called, General Middleton, the referee, awarded the heat to the Rifles by an eighth of an inch. The prizes, four pewters, were then presented to the winning team by the General. The names of the victors are Sergt. Savage, Corpl. Diall and Ptes. Pearce and Lough, and the team was captained by Capt. B. Bell. At the third weekly social of No. 6, held on Saturday evening, the team were "bounced" by the company and received other similar tokens of affectionate regard.

The sixth annual dinner of the Rifles Snow Shoe Club was held on Monday evening at the Queen's Restaurant. The Rifles have the happy faculty not only of enjoying themselves immensely, but also the gift of making others do likewise. During the past few months the club have well maintained their enviable reputation. Their weekly tramps have been the most enjoyable of the season. Their races, including the steeplechase race, were very successful, and everything they have undertaken has been attended with marked success. The annual dinner proved one of the most enjoyable ever given by the club. Among those occupying seats of honour at the head of the table were Capt. Evans, president of the club, and chairman of the evening, on his right Mayor Stewart, and on his left Capt. Gourdeau, of the Dragoon Guards; Col. White, Mr. Louis Dauray, President of Le Canadien Club; Major Stewart, of the Field Battery; Major Walsh, Capt. Josh Wright, Dr. Scott, Lieut. Wright, of No. 2 Company 43rd, Capt. Parker, Capt. Sherwood and Lieut. Bradbury. The opposite ends of the tables were presided over by Mr. Greenfield, bandmaster, and vice-president of the club, and Colour-Sergt. "General" Grant.

Lieut. S. M. Rogers has gone on a trip to Bermuda, for a change of air and scene, he having been in poor health lately. He is accompanied by his wife. They will probably return in about six weeks, when the popular young officer's friends hope to find him restored to his wonted good health.

#### TESTIMONIAL TO GENERAL LORD RUSSELL.

There are in Ottawa at the present day several of the old members of "the Prince Consort's Own," who in 1867, 1868 and 1869 were stationed in the city under Col. Lord Alex. Russell. The retirement and return to England of this popular officer has been made the occasion of the presentation to him of a handsome gold-headed cane inscribed "Presented to Lieutenant-General Lord A. G. Russell, C.B., by Old Riflemen late of the 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade, Ottawa, 1888," and which has just been sent with the following address:

*Lieut.-General Lord A. G. Russell, C.B., Commanding H. M. Forces in British North America.*

MY LORD—We, the undersigned, late of the 1st Battalion, P.C.O. Rifle Brigade, have learned that you are about to return to England, and having had in our youthful days the pleasure of serving under Your Lordship's command, we cannot now, considering the deep respect we entertain for you, allow Your Lordship to leave this country without making known to you and Lady Russell our humble but earnest and sincere wishes.

We therefore beg to offer Your Lordship a cane as a slight token of our esteem, which no doubt we owe you for the many kindnesses we have heretofore received, when serving under your able command, and consequently most respectfully ask your acceptance of it.

We notice with great pleasure that when Your Lordship recently visited Hamilton (that ambitious city of the west) the riflemen there did not allow you to leave without testifying their marked respect and regard for their veteran chief.

In conclusion we unanimously join in saying that we shall ever watch Your Lordship's future career, and we pray that our hearts may be gladdened by hearing that it is a bright one, and that you and Lady Russell may be spared for many years to enjoy all the felicity this earth can afford, and hereafter the heavenly reward of a true, generous and brave soldier.

Signed—Charles Strolger, James Carter, Henry J. Allen, William Kibby, George Gale, Frederick Dunn, W. T. Odell, George Thomas, Patrick Stringer, William Schwitzer, William Booker, John Maroney, William Reynolds, Geo. Simms, William Taylor, Robert Bugg, William March, John Wiltshire and Frederick Hart.

#### Montreal.

ON Saturday evening 24th inst., a match between teams from the Royal Scots and the Victorias was shot in the armoury of the latter and was won by the Rifles with a score of 545 to 498. Particulars were: 10 men each side, 500 and 600 yards, 7 shots each range. Up to near the end the match was very close and exciting. The scores made by the Scots' team, some members of which had no, or but little, practice with the Morris tubes, justify them in considering that a return match, which has already been spoken of, would probably have a different ending.

The Victorias, however, from having had plenty practice are able to put on a strong team of almost any number and feel quite confident of holding their own against all comers.

As the other shooting regiments are importing tubes, targets and ammunition and intend rigging up ranges for practice another winter's shooting may try our mettle more.

"Linch-pin" shows up some lamentable deficiencies regarding the medical department of "our army," and the regulation medicine chests seem to be, in some cases, at least, useless baggage. Hospital Sergeant Birks, of the Victorias, has, however, made his regiment independent in this particular, he having made and afterwards stocked at his own expense, one of the most complete portable field cases it is possible to conceive. Certainly it could not, from its size, serve as a regimental chest for a campaign, but for all requirements at such duties as a city corps on short service, or in camp, is likely to get it would be found to fill the bill. The case, besides being ornamental, is both strong and serviceable and well protected from damp by an outer leather covering. The ingenuity displayed in packing away so much as it contains, in so small a compass, and all arranged so as to be immediately available, is not the least praiseworthy item in the whole. Staff-Sergt. Birks has his ambulance corps well up in their drill and duties and is now giving them a course of lectures on the different points of this highly important branch of field service.

BUSBY.

In a recent issue it was inadvertently stated that the detachment of the Prince of Wales regiment firing the salute on the 10th inst., in honour of the Prince of Wales' silver wedding, was under command of Major Cook. It should have read Major Butler.

#### A BUDGET FROM THE STAR.

The following letter appearing a few days ago in the *Montreal Star* is republished by request:—

Lieut.-Col. Oswald retires from command of the Montreal Garrison Artillery, after commanding it with marked success for the past seven years.

Every member of that brigade deeply regrets that their popular commanding officer should feel it incumbent upon him to resign. That Col. Oswald has been a successful commanding officer is indisputable. He took command of the M. G. A. when that regiment was at a very low ebb, and to-day he hands it over to his successor, Major Turnbull, in first-class order in every respect. I am sure Col. Oswald himself feels deeply having to withdraw from a command that does him infinite credit, but those who have served under him sincerely deplore his loss, and are all of the opinion

that the treatment he received at the hands of the Militia department when fighting for the good of the service leaves him no alternative.

To Col. Oswald's generosity, indomitable pluck and perseverance, must be attributed the success of the Dominion Artillery Association and all the Shoeburyness teams that brought such honour and credit to our Canadian gunners.

The entertainment by the M. G. A., in the Academy of Music last week, in aid of the armoury fund of the Vics, was a grand financial success. It is certain a handsome balance will be handed over to this popular corps, by their brothers in arms. Too much credit cannot be given to Capt. Lane, who worked night and day for several weeks to make the entertainment a success.

I have to repeat that if our popular D. A. G. will call a meeting of commanding officers at once, a grand review for May 24th (Her Majesty's birthday) is assured.

Nearly all the city corps are drilling, and great enthusiasm pervades all ranks, notwithstanding the lack of encouragement from the Department of Militia and Defence.

It is said that the Vics especially are making strenuous efforts to surpass themselves at the coming annual inspection. I know one other corps at least that will fight them hard for the first place.

The Minister of Militia is still undecided as to the changes in the district staffs, as noticed in the *Star* of the 22nd ult., and in the meantime these officers must suffer any amount of inconvenience, simply to please the whims of the Minister of Militia. It is unjust, it is cruel, and I don't hesitate to state no military organization under heaven would mete out such treatment to the permanent staff; but it is in keeping with our present militia system.

"RIGHT ABOUT TURN."

#### St. John, N.B.

THE Annual meeting of the officers of the New Brunswick Brigade of Garrison Artillery was held on Saturday evening, 17th inst., at the Victoria Hotel, King street, all the officers in the city being present with the exception of one; Lieut.-Col. Armstrong in the chair.

The regimental committee submitted their report accompanied by a full statement of the financial status of the brigade, which showed a very considerable balance to their credit with no outstanding liabilities. The report was received and adopted, subject to a later report from the audit committee, which committee is composed of Lieuts. R. R. Ritchie and J. E. E. Dickson.

The report of the band committee was read and adopted subject to report of the audit committee, consisting of Lieut. C. F. Harrison and Dr. White. The favourable report on the band was received with much pleasure, the officers congratulating themselves that their efforts to create a first-class military band had met with so much success, and that the band was now recognized as being second to none in the city. This result is very largely due to the great interest taken in the organization by the bandsmen themselves as well as by the very efficient band committee.

The regimental committee were then elected, resulting in the choice of Paymaster Geo. F. Smith, Surgeon Daniel and Capt. Seely.

The band committee, consisting of Capt. Crawford, Capt. G. W. Jones and Capt. Langan were unanimously re-elected.

On motion the officers unanimously agreed to hand over their drill pay for the year to the regimental committee for brigade purposes.

Reference having been made to the death of Col. Foster and his long connection with the corps, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—Whereas, on the 20th December last, Lieut.-Col. Stephen Kent Foster departed this life, full of years and in the enjoyment to the greatest extent of the respect and esteem of the public; and whereas Col. Foster was appointed lieutenant in the corps April 26, 1834; captain, March 31, 1841; major, August 14, 1848; lieutenant-col., December 6, 1859, retiring in 1884, and thus served as an officer of this corps continuously for the exceptionally long period of half a century, and was for the last 25 years of this period its commanding officer; therefore resolved, That we, the officers of the N. B. G. A., hereby express our appreciation of the personal worth of our late commander, and our admiration of his untiring zeal, and the ability he displayed in keeping his corps in a condition of strength and efficiency for so many years—no small achievement and one demanding more than average executive powers; nor would we forget those pleasant traits of disposition which gained for him the affectionate regard of the officers and men under his command, and made his death a personal loss to so many; and further resolved, That the above resolutions be entered on the records of the brigade and a copy sent to the family of the late Col. Foster.

Several officers spoke in complimentary and feeling terms of the late Col. Foster.

The regimental committee were authorized to purchase some of the more expensive works on artillery for the use of the officers, also a range-finder. It was decided to obtain numerals and letters for the shoulder-straps of the n.-c.-o's and men. After other matters of interest to the brigade had been discussed and decided upon, and after a pleasant evening had been spent, the meeting adjourned.

#### SILK RIBBONS!

Those of our lady readers who would like to have an elegant, large package of extra fine, Assorted Ribbons (by mail), in different widths and all the latest fashionable shades; adapted for Bonnet Strings, Neckwear, Scarfs, Trimming for Hats and Dresses, Bows, Fancy Work, &c., can get an astonishing big bargain, owing to the recent failure of a large wholesale Ribbon Manufacturing Co., by sending only 25 cents (stamps), to the address we give below.

As a *special offer*, this house will give *double* the amount of any other firm in America if you will send the names and P. O. Address of ten *newly* married ladies when ordering and mention the name of this paper. No pieces less than one yard in length. Satisfaction is guaranteed, or money cheerfully refunded. Three packages for 60 cents. Address, LONDON RIBBON AGENCY, JERSEY CITY, N. Y.

Having paid so heavy a price for the Brennan torpedo, the English Government are fully bent upon keeping the costly secret of its locomotion. The new buildings for its manufacture at Chatham are now nearly finished, and to insure secrecy the different parts of the torpedo are, it is stated, to be made in different towns, whilst the drawings, together with the one torpedo which has been used for so many experiments, are to be stored in a bomb-proof building at Brompton barracks, where a number of safes fitted with steel doors 3-in. thick have been erected.

Says the *London Spectator*: "There must exist somewhere in the Indian Office, possibly in the secret department, an account by Lord Canning of an offer made to him in 1858-59 by leading Sikhs to become Christians *en masse*, and make Christianity the ruling religion of India. We heard of this strangest of all the strange transactions of that wild period from his own lips."

## Modern Tactics.

[By Capt. H. R. Gall—From Illustrated Naval and Military Magazine.]

(Continued from Page 304.)

THE Russians in 1877 often reached the Turkish entrenchments, only to perish in them, or only captured them after desperate hand-to-hand fighting.

The construction of the Turkish and Russian field fortifications, and their defence, furnish a study well worth the careful consideration of every thoughtful soldier. They belong more properly to field fortification than tactics, and the student is recommended to read a most interesting and valuable book entitled *The Russian Army and its Campaigns in Turkey, 1877-78*, by F. V. Greene, U. S. Army. The book is published by Messrs. W. H. Allen & Co., 13 Waterloo Place, S.W., together with an excellent atlas, and sets of drawings representing very clearly the types of field-works used by the Turks and Russians respectively.

Lieutenant Greene remarks in his concluding chapter: "The campaign, 1877-78, like every campaign which was ever fought, furnishes its military lessons for the future, mistakes to be avoided, successful manœuvres to be repeated under similar opportunities. But there is one feature, a question of tactics, in which this war finds no parallel in past history, and which is of the highest importance for the conduct of future wars. I refer to the great use which was made of hasty fortifications in connection with modern fire arms.

Infantry bear the brunt of every battle, and their assaults are now delivered in the formation known as "The Attack Formation."

The British system is fully described in the Field Exercise. Its main characteristic is that it endeavours to eliminate the mixing up of companies.

Several other attacks (including one by the author), have been advocated, all based on the wrong assumption that it is possible to prevent companies being mixed up. Until this restriction is removed no practical solution of the all important tactical question is likely to be arrived at.

With an organization giving eight weak companies to a battalion, and in the face of recent military history, the tenacity with which the authorities hold on to their thoroughly impracticable restriction about not mixing up companies is inexplicable.

In the opinion of a high German authority, "It destroys at the very outset of the action the captain's control over his company, and entirely ignores the losses inseparable from a general assault on a position, and that to carry a front of 800 yards it is necessary to put in a whole division. Battalions must be intermixed before even a distance of 500 yards from the enemy has been reached, and by the time the zone of decision (about 300 yards) has been attained, whole regiments will be required.

"This danger can only be guarded against by accustoming the men in peace to act under the orders of the officers nearest to them, and on the part of the officers by redividing amongst themselves the commands as each fresh reinforcement comes into line. This is the universal practice in Germany at present. The British advance is altogether too slow.

"In the German attack, from the moment the signal for the advance is given, all troops in rear of the fighting line move off in quick time and never halt; if the fighting line is checked, they close on it and carry it on with them.

"The usual distance between successive lines is about 400 paces."

### Fourth Stage.

At the moment of closing on the defenders' position, all three arms must be well up to co-operate. The same German authority above quoted remarks that, "the different arms of the service in the English army are not sufficiently closely united; they fail to perceive that each only exists for the other, and that the efficiency of an army is measured by the product, not the sum, of the efficiency of each arm."

The guns must be prepared to move forward (not necessarily on the flank) as their infantry advances, and take up fresh positions, and, if necessary to re-establish confidence, come right up alongside of it, to within 900 yards of the enemy, *i.e.* within the deadly zone of the defenders' rifle-fire. The fatal fallacies which the breech-loader brought in its train must be swept away before cavalry or artillery resume their proper role on the field of battle.

The cavalry must be ready, not simply willing, to sacrifice itself in the event of a repulse, to give time for its beaten infantry to be rallied, or to retreat to a safe distance and extemporize a rear-guard, in the event of a retirement being deemed expedient.

In the event of success it is equally imperative for the sister arms to be well up with their infantry; the artillery to make good the captured positions against counter

attack, and to shell the retreating enemy; and the cavalry to pursue and reap the full fruits of the victory.

The efficiency of artillery depends to such a large extent on accurate shooting, and this again on the nature of the ground and the state of the weather, that any calculations not made on the spot are worthless.

The principle that artillery should not fire over infantry is entirely a wrong one, and practically deprives the infantry of the co-operation of its guns.

In pointing out this tendency of British gunners not to fire over their infantry, the same German officer before quoted, explains, "That, even in a fight of one corps against another, it would be impossible for the artillery to prepare the attack from a position on its flank, because, taking 2,000 yards as the distance between the two fronts, the outer battery of the line would be some 4,000 yards distant from the point of attack; and where several corps are fighting alongside each other, the idea is perfectly impracticable."

### Artillery-fire Tactics in Attack.

1st. Fire on hostile artillery, if it be visible; if not shell his infantry.

2nd. Change position as seldom as possible during an action, as guns are vulnerable and silenced when moving; and if the target be visible, 200 or 300 yards, more or less, makes little difference with modern artillery.

When artillery moves forward it should move boldly and as far as necessary to co-operate with its advancing infantry.

3rd. Batteries should be massed as much as the ground admits of for the sake of unity of command. Experience shows it to be difficult to concentrate the fire of dispersed batteries.

### Musketry-fire Tactics in Attack, as laid down in the Field Exercises,

"depend on a knowledge of the range, the skill" of the firer, and the formation of the ground; and in the field, the moral condition of the troops, and the quantity of ammunition at the disposal of the assailants.

According to the Field Exercise "distances are classified as follows: up to 400 yards 'Short Distances,' from 400 to 900 yards 'Medium Distances,' from 900 to 1,700 yards 'Long Distances,' and from 1,700 to 3,100 yards (the extreme range of the rifle) 'Extreme Distances.'

"The preparation of the attack at 'long' distances belongs to the artillery; it is only in exceptional cases that the infantry can take part in it.

"A premature opening of fire by the fighting line may lengthen the action, and lead to a deficiency of ammunition at the final stage, and thus weaken the moral energy of the assailants.

"In open ground the troops in the fighting line should only begin firing at 'medium' distances, provided the enemy is visible; if he is not seen the time is better spent in getting over the ground than in halting to fire at an inadequate target.

"In broken and covered ground the fighting line may advance to quite 'short' distances without firing.

"In the attack volley-firing should be employed, in the early stages when at the longer distances. It cannot be used by troops during the advance in the final stage, where any halt would delay the vigorous offensive required at the moment. Volleys should also be used by troops specially detailed for the purpose from the reserve, and placed on commanding positions on either flank to cover the general advance.

"When a position has been carried, volley-firing is the best fire to be used in the pursuit, and when getting the men in hand again.

"A dropping fire can produce no useful effect, and has the drawback of slackening the advance.

"The fighting line should be reinforced as the fire can be made to tell; it is essential to bring from the commencement an effective concentration of fire on the enemy's position.

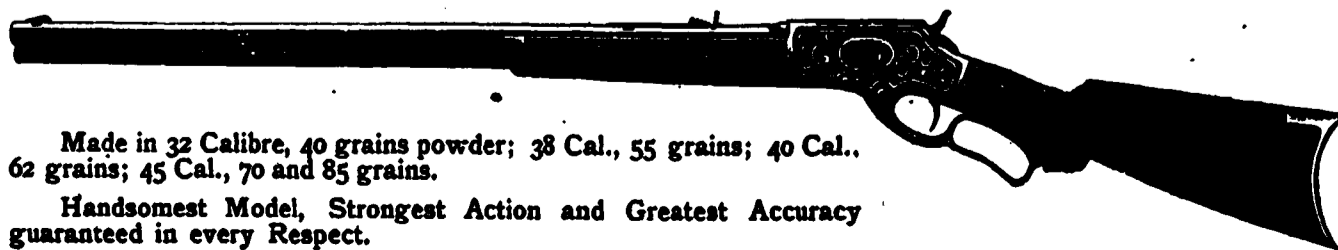
"The useful effect of musketry-fire depends on its precision, combined with rapidity, but it is better to seek such effect from accuracy, and from a sufficient number of rifles brought up into the line (without over-crowding) than from undue rapidity from a smaller number."

These regulations are thus quoted with the object of impressing them upon the student (a considerable experience having convinced the writer that they are too often ignored altogether or slurred over).

Fire-discipline, especially when the attack commences, should be the most important part of an infantry soldier's training.

(To be continued.)

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PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT

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J. D. TAYLOR, MANAGER.

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The Canadian Militia Gazette is the recognized organ of the Active Force of the Dominion. It is the only Military publication in Canada.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Correspondence on topics of interest to the Militia is invited. To ensure insertion of any communication the name and address of the writer must be forwarded with it. No name so communicated will be published without consent.

REGIMENTAL NEWS.

It is our desire to record all events of general interest transpiring in connection with each and every corps in the Dominion. That we may be kept posted, officers are respectfully requested to interest themselves in seeing that the news of their respective corps shall be forwarded to the MILITIA GAZETTE—if possible by some person chosen by them as regular correspondent.

Adjutants will greatly oblige by forwarding copies of regimental orders, especially those relating to promotions or transfers of non-commissioned officers and officers.

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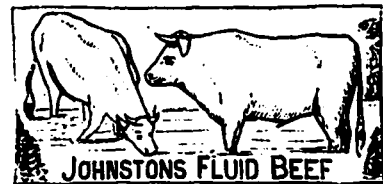
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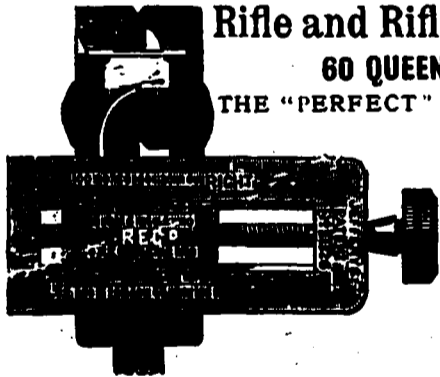
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