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The Blanket Issue for Camp.

IN the regulations recently issued for the brigade camps about to be held, it is again prescribed as in former years that only one blanket per officer and man is to be issued. No provision is made for serving out rubber sheets so that the men will not have to make their beds upon damp ground.

Time and again the complaint has been made that the men have insufficient covering when sleeping in camp, but the matter ends with the sound of the complaint. We question very much if the particular officer who is responsible for the scanty allowance would himself sleep in camp with but one blanket to cover him, and we know that no officer or other person privileged to bring extra articles to camp ever thinks of contenting himself with the government allowance. The men are entitled to be made comfortable while in camp, and with an abundant supply of spare blankets, and water proof sheets as well, in the military stores, it is not right that anyone should spend miserable nights, shivering with cold and running the risk of contracting disease by the exposure. At the camp of No. 4 district last year, the medical officers discussed this very subject, and passed a resolution advising that in future at least two blankets and one rubber sheet per man be issued. This recommendation was to have been transmitted to the department by the Principal Medical Officer, though it does not appear by the annual report that it actually reached its destination.

As a precaution against taking cold at night it is common for the men to come to camp wearing exceptionally heavy underclothing, with the result that they are not unfrequently overcome by the heat while drilling in the day time, and the remedy is found to be almost as bad as the evil it was designed to cure.

We feel confident that the Minister of Militia, whose kindness of heart no one can question, would be the last person to knowingly allow the men of the force under his care to be put to any discomfort in his power to obviate, and we trust that his attention being called to this matter he will have the order amended so as to provide for an increased issue. The necessity for a change this year will be especially recognized by reason of the exceptional coolness of the season.

Rifle Practice Regulations for 1888-89.

THE regulations for the annual drill of 1888-89, published in our issue of the 17th inst., make exceedingly interesting reading, particularly that portion relating to instruction in rifle practice, which is ordered to be a principal consideration, not only when the camps have been formed, but previously, when the site is being determined upon.

Next to instruction in rifle practice, which cannot take up very much time as only twenty rounds are to be fired by each man, importance is to be attached to instruction of officers and men in drill in extended order for skirmishing as well as for attack formation; and "little or no time is to be given," say the orders, "to marching past, which is merely a parade movement and should be practised and learned before or after the assembly of the camp."

The Lieutenant-General commanding, Sir Fred. Middleton, who loses no opportunity of impressing upon the force the great importance of being able not only to shoot but to hit when shooting, has frequently expressed himself in favour of practice at ranges shorter than those commonly used, and in the regulations this year he has introduced a change to give effect to this view. That is, the first distance for class-firing is instead of two hundred to be one hundred yards, where five rounds are to be fired from a standing position; the same number to be similarly fired at two hundred yards also. Five rounds are to be fired at three hundred yards kneeling, and five at four hundred yards, standing, kneeling, or prone. Being brought to such a short distance as one hundred yards from the target, the recruit will probably make a greater effort to strike it than were he at the comparatively remote distance of two hundred yards, at which, when in the past ten rounds were fired, it was no uncommon sight to see a man blaze away all his cartridges without the hope or endeavour to hit the target, while the man who averaged a hit every second-shot though himself doing remarkably well. And perhaps he was, his opportunities considered.

This year, however, having been broken in at one hundred yards, where no one should miss, the men will probably be more interested at two, and do better than usual at that and succeeding ranges.

Eccentricities in Militia Equipment.

COMMENTING upon a letter recently received from a Canadian correspondent on the subject of eccentricities in the uniform and equipment of our militia, the *Broad Arrow* advises the Minister of Militia to appoint a committee to consider the best description of dress and equipment. For such a commission, says that paper, "there are among Canadian officers many very capable men who, apart from their knowledge of the country, have had practical experience in the field during the Red River Expedition, Fenian raids, and the recent rough experiences in the North-West Rebellion. The Canadian army is now in its infancy, and efforts should be made to make the magnificent material of which it is composed as perfect as possible in every detail. The administrators might commence by at once throwing aside all old-fashioned British traditions as regards clothing and equipment, and initiate ideas practically adapted to the requirements of the country. Why should the Canadians adopt the heavy ornamental parade helmet and tight-fitting scarlet tunic, because the Imperial troops wear them? In England we have a showy uniform, in order to attract recruits and to please the eye of the public, who delight in pretty shows; but as soon as our soldiers go on active or foreign service all this finery is flung aside, and we dress our men in a

practical fashion, according to the climate in which they have to serve.

* * The Canadians are a very practical people; they do not want to have a mere parade dress such as is worn in England—a young country cannot afford the luxury of having two distinct descriptions of uniform—they merely desire a simple service dress adapted to the climate, and of some use when on active service.”

It is the easiest thing possible to say that the uniform and equipment is unsuitable, and we have no doubt the Minister of Militia would not be hard to convince on that point; but the difficulty in making a change would be in determining exactly what would meet the requirements of the case. Perhaps a decision could be arrived at most readily through the appointment of a commission as suggested. The expense of the change need not be great so far as the uniform is concerned, for having put up with the discomfort so long the militia would certainly be able to bear with it until the time for a new issue arrived in the natural course of events.

Current Topics.

The United States Secretary of War has authorized the manufacture of a quantity of coats and trousers for experimental issue to troops stationed in hot climates during the summer season.

South Australia has established a volunteer mounted infantry addition to its defensive force. The new branch numbers five hundred officers and men. An annual encampment, representative of all the forces, is in future to be held at Easter time.

The *Volunteer Record* complaining of the shallow nature of brigade drills in general, hints that the everlasting march-past is indulged in because the brigadiers don't know much about any other movements. Many of these officers, it says, “appear anything but at home when handling the brigades for the time being at their mercy.

The infantry soldiers of the Aldershot Division have been ordered to try the experiment of wearing the haversack over the left instead of the right shoulder, in all orders of dress. This is with a view of determining whether it interferes in any way with the other parts of the equipment, or the movements of the soldier, particularly when in marching order with a full haversack. The proposed change is connected with the question of extra ammunition for magazine rifles.

The British Government has lately been giving some attention to a new invention in cartridge pouches, rendered a necessity by the introduction of rapid firing rifles. The flap or cover of the pouches has hitherto proved an impediment to quick loading, as it had to be lifted each time a cartridge was to be extracted. In the new invention, however, the flap slides below the pouch, so as to be entirely out of the way when cartridges are to be extracted. The pouch has already been largely adopted in the United States, and also in Russia.

While the British military authorities are thinking out new systems of equipment and coat-folding for the infantry troops, the Germans are adopting a form of knapsack on a fresh model, which, says the *Mulhausen Express*, is not so large as the old pattern. The overcoat will be rolled round the top and sides of the knapsack, as in the French service under the Empire; mess tins, etc., will be carried on the top, and the water-bottle and haversack will be suspended from the waist-belt, one on each hip. The straps are so arranged that the chest and heart action of the soldier are not interfered with, while at the same time he has free use of his arms.

Capt. Greville Harston, of the 10th Royal Grenadiers, Toronto, has apparently impressed the Duke of Cambridge and the members of the British Headquarters Staff, with the merits of his device for converting the Martini rifle into a repeater. It will be remembered that Capt. Harston was summoned to England some months ago to explain his idea, and he has since been engaged in supervising the practical application of the invention to the Martini for trial purposes. The brief cable despatch announcing the success of his exhibition at the Horse Guards, states also the probability that a large number of Martinis will be converted at once.

Very applicable to Canada as well as to the mother country, is the following from the *Volunteer Record*: “Fencing, as an accomplishment, and also as a military art, is we opine too much neglected in England. As an accomplishment, it will endow the amateur with ease of bodily movements, grace and suppleness in peace, and with nerve, vigour and quickness of movement in war. The establishment of fencing classes in British volunteer corps, does not appear so difficult of promotion, and their maintenance and success could be readily assured by the many members who might desire to relax the sterner duties of winter drill under cover, by the pleasant and, at the same time, valuable pastime of “pinking” with foils.”

Gen. Montcalm's journal of his memorable campaign in Canada, of which a portion is in his own handwriting—the complete set of journals of Gen. de Levis' Canadian campaign from 1775 to 1790, with his own description of the second battle of the Plains of Abraham, in which he led the victorious French army, and other papers of great interest and importance, have just been discovered in France, and copies are about to be forwarded to the distinguished French-Canadian historian the Abbe Casgrain. The manuscripts have remained for over a century in the library of the castle of Noisiel, and have thus escaped up to the present all investigation. The present Comte de Nicolay, who discovered the treasures, is a great-grandson of Levis, and universal legatee of his late uncle, the third Duke de Levis—for the victor of St. Foye, or the second battle of the Plains, became, after his return from Canada, marshal of France, and subsequently Duke of Levis.

While the funds are being collected the sculptor entrusted with the erection of a monument to the memory of the British officers and men who fell at the battle of Waterloo, has completed the design of the work. The theme is Britannia returning from war and pausing to mourn over her fallen warriors lying buried in foreign soil, and whose tomb she leaves to the guard of lions. Brussels is about to break up the old intramural cemeteries of that city, including the Protestant burial ground, and to remove the tombs to the new cemetery at Evere, outside the town. In this burial ground lie the remains of eleven British officers and of many soldiers, who died of their wounds in Brussels after the battle of Waterloo. It is proposed to remove these remains, and those of the other British soldiers who were buried in graves round Mont St. Jean, to a vault in the new cemetery, and to erect over it this monument. The Brussels municipality has offered as a free gift an admirable site in the new cemetery for the proposed work, the cost of which will be defrayed by subscriptions from Englishmen.

Suggestions Concerning the Schools.

It requires no little hardihood for a military man to give expression to ideas so foreign to our military tradition as those contained in the below quoted article from the *Warder*, published at Lindsay, Ont. But the editor is an enthusiastic militia officer, and having the courage of his convictions has offered some reasonable suggestions in the direction of removing generally recognized weaknesses in our military school system. He says:—

“As the *Warder* during past years has frequently shown, the schools of instruction, while possessing many advantages and doing much good, could, without sacrificing any of those advantages or dispensing with an officer or a man of the permanent corps, be rendered infinitely more serviceable to the country.

“The great faults of the schools are, (1) too few are trained for officers, and (2) instruction is not according to knowledge of student, but according to his rank. We again respectfully suggest the following improvements. The present strong features, not conflicting with any of these, should of course be retained.

(1) Candidates should be admitted at least monthly and in UNLIMITED numbers.

(2) Each candidate, whether colonel or private, studying for the same grade of certificate, should wear SIMILAR UNIFORM during drill hours, and be subject to the same discipline. In short each should attend as a CADET, and not as a colonel, a captain, a sergeant, or a private.

(3) Each cadet should be at liberty to lodge without the barracks. The present system, which treats the student according to his rank in the militia list or on the service roll, instead of according to his knowledge or proficiency, is in utter want of harmony with sound educational or military principles. In a democratic country like Canada it is quite out of place. Imperial Germany or republican France allows no such snobbery.

(4) Each should be required to spend sufficient time in barracks to become thoroughly acquainted with routine work in detail; but none should necessarily be obliged to lodge in barracks, except when on guard or other duty. Nothing necessarily becoming a soldier is learned by simply sleeping and eating in barracks. Further, at present only the officers are admitted to mess with the staff of the schools. If the object is instruction and knowledge, then the private, aiming for an officer's certificate, is not fairly used. In short, if all must remain in barracks there should be no classification as now. All should be cadets and learn the mess room duties right through from privates to lieutenant-colonels.

(5) Each should begin at the bottom and work his way up till he attains the knowledge necessary to acquire the certificate required. In drill both the permanent corps and the cadets should be utilized.

(6) Certificates should be granted rendering the holders eligible to act only (1) as company officers, and (2) as field officers. The country should not squander money in schools instructing for sergeants' certificates.

"Were these suggestions adopted, the schools would be more practical; the active militia would possess infinitely more trained officers; and the expense per certificate would be infinitely less."

Personal.

Mr. R. McVittie, the famous Scotch rifleman, whose departure for Canada was announced some time ago, will it is said make his home in Toronto.

Lord Dufferin intends in the absence of any unforeseen occurrence to remain in India until December next, and will if possible pay his promised visit to Kashmir during the autumn.

Major-General Bingham Turner, who after the Trent affair was quartered in Toronto with a battery of artillery, died suddenly on the 16th in England. He was married to Col. Gzowski's eldest daughter, by whom he had a large family.

Lord Alexander Russell, having completed his five years term as commander of the forces in Canada sailed from Halifax on the 28th, for England. A guard of honour of a hundred men of the York and Lancaster regiment paid him the parting compliments. Lord Russell carries with him the best wishes of all those with whom he has been brought into contact during his residence in Canada.

The news of the resignation of the popular officer lately commanding the Montreal Garrison Artillery has been received with regret by his many friends on the other side of the water. In the last issue of the *Volunteer Record* to hand, there appears the following complimentary notice: "Habitués of Shoeburyness of some seven years ago, will well remember Col. Oswald, the officer by whose energy and liberality the detachment which represented the Dominion in the National Artillery Association competitions, were enabled to visit this country. It will also be remembered that the Canadians competed so well that they carried back with them the beautiful cup given by the Marquis of Lorne for repository competition. Col. Oswald has now—much to the regret of those with whom he has been associated, and loss to the service with which he has so long been honourably connected—sought in retirement repose from the duties of his command of the Montreal Garrison Artillery."

Lieut.-General Sir John Ross, the new officer in command of H.M. forces in British North America, arrived in Halifax on the 25th, and immediately took over the command from his predecessor Lord Alexander Russell. A newspaper correspondent who stood upon the dock where the military paid the usual honours to the new commanding officer, was prepared to be overhauled by the appearance of the General, who has a distinguished military record. "But," he says, "great was our surprise to see, not a big, grim-looking warrior, but a pleasant-looking little gentleman of about five feet four, rather stout, with a grey whisker and dressed in civilian's clothes. He is one of the jolliest-looking generals we have ever had." General Ross served through the Crimean war, the Indian mutiny and Afghanistan wars. He took part in the battles of Alma and Inkerman, the siege of Sebastopol, the action at Cawnpore, the siege and capture of Lucknow, accompanied General Sir Frederick Roberts in his famous march to Candahar, and was second in command when the Afghans were routed and practically annihilated. By virtue of command, Sir John Ross will be administrator of the government in the Dominion pending the arrival of Lord Stanley.

The French Admiralty has determined, so we are told, to establish a pigeon service between the various naval ports in the Mediterranean and the Channel.

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.]

THE MANUAL OF ARTILLERY DRILL—ADJUTANT'S DUTY IN FIELD BATTERIES.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

SIR,—It would seem that the manual on field artillery drill does not completely cover the subject of which it professes to treat. There is still lurking about it the detail of a six-gun battery. Why not have a thorough revision of the work and secure complete adaptness to the requirements of the Canadian service? Meanwhile, I desire to ask for information. What officer in a field battery does adjutant's duty? If the 2nd Lieut., has he the right to style himself adjutant? With batteries brigaded no question arises, but when a battery drills at battery headquarters there is a difficulty. Perhaps "Linch-Pin" will answer. W.

A MARTINI ADVOCATE.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

SIR,—It seems to me that one reason why the rifle associations are not of as much use to the rank and file of the militia as they might be is because of the number of rifles used. If a private in the Queen's Own Rifles, for instance, joins the Ontario or Dominion Association, he must practise with three rifles, the regimental short Snider for the battalion match, and the long Snider and Martini-Henry for the others. It is too much to ask a man to become familiar with three rifles—and buy two of them. I would have joined the Ontario Association last year, but I did not think I stood any chance with a battered old regimental gun, and I could not afford a new long one.

Would it not be well to issue, say ten or twenty Martini-Henry rifles, according to the demand, to each company, to be used only for shooting, leaving the old Sniders for drill purposes, and make every match, battalion and association, open to the Martini only. I am told that there are many of these rifles in store, and one hundred would cover the number in any battalion who attend rifle practice. I do not believe that a repeater is necessary in this country or likely to be adopted, even if it should be issued to the British army. V.

Toronto, 29th May, 1888.

Range Finders for Infantry.

DESIRING to adopt a range finder for infantry and to secure the best possible, the Imperial authorities are advertising for proposals respecting instruments fulfilling the following conditions:—

1. The instrument must be strong and simple and must not require frequent adjustment, nor extraordinary precautions against the exigencies of field service and effects of climate and weather.
2. It must be possible for one infantry soldier to carry the entire apparatus in addition to his rifle and ordinary equipment, both on the march and in action.
3. A person of ordinary intelligence and normal vision must be able to become an efficient range-taker after a month's training.
4. The system must be suitable for the observation of moving objects, especially troops of all arms in the usual formations, up to 1,200 yards distance.
5. It must be practicable to make at least four observations per minute with an average error, at 1,000 yards, not exceeding 4 per cent. of the range.
6. The range must be read in yards without recourse to calculation.
7. The number of observers required for each instrument or set of instruments must not exceed two.
8. Other considerations being equal, preference will be given to those instruments which
 - (a) Can find the range of fixed objects up to 2,500 yards with the greatest rapidity, but with an error not exceeding 100 yards; this to be effected either by the normal mode of operations, or with the aid of extra appliances.
 - (b) Require only one observer.
9. The instruments submitted for trial must be complete with full description, and instructions for use.
10. Proposals must be sent in, addressed to the Adjutant-General, Horse Guards, War Office, before August 1, 1888.

GOSSIP OF THE MILITIA.

A Military Tournament for Dominion Day Celebration at Ottawa.

The Guards Pleased with their Montreal Outing—The Victoria Rifles Inspection. Presentation to Sergt.-Major Rodden—A Field Day for the Eighth Royal Rifles—The Warfaring Operations of the Toronto Exhibition Association—Hamilton's unmusical Councilmen—The Grenadiers at Guelph—Miscellaneous Notes.

At a recent meeting of officers of the 45th Battalion, to arrange preliminaries for brigade camp at Kingston in June, it was unanimously decided to take none but good steady men.

Michael Kelly, a private in A company of the Infantry School Corps, Fredericton, suicided on the 20th inst., shooting himself in the left breast. He died early next morning. Kelly was twenty-five years of age, and worked at the printing trade before joining the school corps, to which he has belonged since its formation. He went on a spree a fortnight before his death, after an abstinence from liquor for two years, and it is said that nervous prostration consequent on the excess, led to the suicide.

On Sunday morning the 20th inst., No. 4 company of the 31st Battalion, under the command of Lieut. Torry, together with the fine band of the battalion, under their bandmaster Mr. Parker, turned out for church parade and marched to the Presbyterian church to attend divine service. By the time the hour arrived to leave the drill shed the street was lined with spectators to view the boys in red. The band although just newly equipped looked handsome in their new scarlet tunics and presented a fine soldierly appearance. The company was also well up to the mark and although a large number of them were recruits they marched very steadily.—*Durham Review*.

Ottawa.

An attractive programme of military sports is being arranged for Dominion Day, in connection with the celebration in this city. These will be open to the whole Dominion, and it is hoped that many outside corps will do the Capital the honour of sending representatives, all of whom may trust to being well looked after during their stay in the city. The programme includes events for all branches of the service being as follows:—

1. Bayonet and manual exercise, for squads of twelve non-commissioned officers and men from any battalion of infantry or rifles.
2. Dismounting and mounting ordnance. Squads of n.c.o. and men from any battery of artillery.
3. Wrestling on horseback, open to the cavalry.
4. Skirmishing race, 440 yards, for infantry or rifles.
5. Tug-of-war (on turf). Teams of eight men from any troop, battery, or company.
6. Victoria cross race, 500 yards, cavalry.
7. Dismounting ordnance race, for batteries.

There will be two good prizes for each event, in the shape of silver cups, or gold or silver medals. The committee in charge of these sports consists of Capt. D. C. Bliss, O.F.B.; Capt. T. Evans, 43rd Batt; Lieut. R. Brown, P.L.D.G., Lieut. P. B. Taylor, G.G.F.G., and Mr. C. W. Martin, all experienced men and hard workers, so that everything needful will be done to make them a success. Further particulars desired may be obtained from Capt. T. Evans or Mr. C. W. Martin, the secretaries. Entries, addressed together of these gentlemen, will be received up to 30th June.

Officers and men alike of the Foot Guards are delighted with the attention and hospitality shown the regiment in Montreal on the Queen's Birthday. All the Montreal corps were represented on the reception committee, and the members of each did their share; but the Fifth Royal Scots were particularly attentive, having been recipients of the hospitality of the Guards last year, when the Scots visited Ottawa. They paraded with the Guards on the Champ de Mars on the morning of the Queen's Birthday, and the Guards "trooped the colours," much to the delight of the thousands of spectators, to whom the spectacle was a novelty. Lieut.-Col. Caverhill, of the Scots, was the officer in command at the attendant review.

The Field Battery are preparing to join the district camp which open on the 19th June. The battery will be the only corps from the city to go to camp this year.

Bandmaster Greenfield and the other members of the Rifles band are kindhearted citizens as well as good soldiers, as witness the following paragraph from the *Evening Journal*: "As the band of the 43rd Batt. was passing the Protestant Orphans' Home, on its return from the Canada Atlantic station on Wednesday, after the demonstration in honour of the Governor-General, a little orphan girl lisped a request that the band would play them a tune. The kind-hearted bandsmen could not resist the appeal, and wheeling into the orphanage grounds formed up and played a couple of selections to the immense delight of the inmates, both young and old. The kindly act spoke well for the hearts of the members of the 43rd band and will tend to increase the high estimation in which it is already held by the citizens.

Montreal.

The Victoria Rifles' Armoury was enlivened on the anniversary of Her Majesty's birthday by the uniforms of the Governor-General's Foot Guards and their friends of the Fifth Royal Scots. A general invitation to use the building was extended to the visitors, and the Vics were pleased to see how the boys availed themselves of it. The Sergeants' Mess was made open to the sergeants of both the regiments on parade, and good fellowship reigned between the red and the black coats. The sergeant-majors of the G.G.F.G. and the Vics having been duly bounced, before the party broke up a genial representative of the Royal Scots was in turn seized and elevated, but bouncing a Scot in the nether costume of his native wilds was discovered to be an unhandy process, and the game was called off. The Guards, by their excellent behaviour, have made many friends here, and both their reception and send-off were evidences of the pleasure their trip here afforded Montrealers, civil and military.

The Vics have the honour of having the first inspection this year in No. 5 district. The regiment mustered at the armoury on Saturday in strong force, 366 men of all ranks being present. The line of march thence to the Champ de Mars was crowded with spectators, while the inspection ground itself was literally packed with people, a large proportion being lady and gentleman friends of the members of the corps specially invited by card from Lt.-Col. Henshaw and the officers.

It would be, in the short space I can ask for in the GAZETTE, impossible to detail the inspection itself; suffice it to say the Vics passed a most creditable one, and any regiment surpassing them will have to work hard and will deserve to be more than complimented. The inspecting officer was Lt.-Col. Mattice, acting D.A.G., and he expressed himself as highly pleased with the way all the movements were carried out. The special feature—review exercise in both slow and quick time—was excellent with probably even a better showing in quick time. When the regiment returned to the armoury a pleasing event, which had been prepared by the Sergeant's Mess, took place in the presentation to Sergeant-Major Rodden of a silver tea service. The presentation was made by Lt.-Col. Henshaw, and served the double purpose of a mark of esteem to the retiring Sergeant-Major and a souvenir of his marriage, which takes place on 7th June. Mr. Rodden, it is thought, will accept a commission in the old corps he has been so long and so favourably connected with.

The staff appointment of Musketry-Instructor, vacant by the promotion of Mr. Shaw, has been filled by Sergeant E. W. Wilson of No. 5 Co., Corpl. W. Proctor in turn filling the vacancy in that company.

BUSBY.

Lieut.-Col. Ouimet and the officers of the Sixty-Fifth give a grand reception Thursday, 31st May, in their new quarters on Craig street, on the occasion of the third anniversary of the battle of Frenchman's Butte. Says the *Star*: "It is probable the gallant soldiers will have all they can do to attend to their visitors. The regiment is in a high state of efficiency, the ranks being full, and numerous applications are being made for the vacancies created by the recent resignations. Altogether, the battalion, officers and men, enjoys great popularity, and it is apparently one of the best organized of the force."

Quebec.

The Eighth Royal Rifles underwent their annual inspection on the Plains of Abraham on the afternoon of the Queen's Birthday before an immense concourse of citizens. Shortly after mid-day the men of the battalion began to muster at the drill hall, the scrupulous cleanliness of their neat uniforms and the bright polish of their belts and leggings being subjects of general remark on the streets. About half past two the battalion was formed up in the drill hall, under command of Lieut.-Col. H. J. Miller, there being present about three hundred, all told, including six companies, brass band, bugle band and signalling corps. After being put through some preliminary movements the battalion proceeded, by way of the Grande Allée, to the Plains of Abraham. The popular thoroughfare, as it had been for nearly an hour previous, was crowded with people hurrying on to the review ground, and as the regiment passed, with a good swinging step, the neat appearance and steady

marching of the men were generally commented upon. By the time the corps reached the Plains, an immense assemblage of sightseers was on the ground, reminding one of the great mass of humanity gathered upon the same spot eight or nine years ago to witness the big review before their Royal Highnesses Prince Leopold and Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne. Such proportions had the crowd attained that the detachment of the Royal Cavalry School corps on duty to keep the parade ground clear, had considerable difficulty in keeping the spectators behind the long lines of camp colours defining the quadrilateral within which the manoeuvres were to be executed. When the inspecting officer, Lieut.-Col. Duchesnay, D.A.G., arrived, the battalion was drawn up in line at open order facing the road.

The customary salute was given and Colonel Duchesnay accompanied by a large and brilliant staff proceeded down and back along the line to inspect the men's equipment, with which he was well pleased. The officers on the staff included Lieut.-Colonel Taschereau, B.M., Lt.-Col. Montizambert, Capt. Rutherford, Capt. Bourget, Lt.-Col. Evanturel and Lieut. Heward.

When the inspection of the ranks had been completed and close order taken, the battalion marched past in column, quarter column, and at the double, the several companies as they went by with jaunty step and correctly dressed ranks being loudly applauded.

The regiment was then put through the manual and firing exercise by Major J. Elton Prower, and afterwards through the sword bayonet exercise by Captain Ernest F. Wurtele, adjutant of the regiment. Great praise was bestowed upon the men for their precision and steadiness in the above.

Lt.-Col. Miller then put the corps through a number of battalion movements, including changes of front, formation of squares, deployments, echelon movements, etc. Captains G. E. A. Jones and J. S. Dunbar were afterwards called out and put the battalion through a number of movements, all of which were very neatly executed.

The battalion was then extended for attack, and this part of the drill was also very creditably performed.

The medals won at target practice by the different companies were then presented to the fortunate winners by Mrs. Dunbar. The Championship Regimental Badge was presented to Sergt. Dewfall, who holds the proud title of champion shot of the regiment, for the year.

The inspecting officer expressed himself as very much pleased with the serviceable appearance and excellent drill of this crack corps.

The regiment was then photographed by Mr. Iivernois, and next marched to the armoury, where the members were addressed by Lt.-Col. Miller, who thanked them for having done so well and invited them all to become members of the rifle club of the regiment and keep up their shooting during the summer.

In the evening the officers entertained the staff and commanding officers of the different corps at the Garrison Club. The following guests were present: Lt.-Col. Duchesnay, D.A.G., Lt.-Col. Taschereau, B.M., Lt.-Col. Forsyth, Q.O.C.H., Lt.-Col. Turnbull, R.C.S.C., Lt.-Col. Montizambert, R.C.A., Lt.-Col. Evanturel, 9th Batt., Major Short, R. C.A., Major Lindsay, Q.F.B., Lt. Heward, R.C.S.C., Lt.-Col. Scott, R.L., Lt.-Col. Oswald, R.L.

Toronto.

The Industrial Exhibition Association of Toronto is extremely anxious to obtain possession of the Garrison Commons here with a view to the removal of the butts to Slabtown or some similarly remote locality. A deputation from this association recently waited upon the Minister of Militia, who, I believe, said he would look into the matter during an intended visit of his to Toronto.

The Exhibition people are much worried about the dangers of rifle shooting, and assume a virtue by saying that the firing is extremely dangerous to passers by. We might suppose that if the association ever went in for such a dangerous pastime, great precautions would be taken by them to prevent the loss of life, and further that no boating parties would be incommoded on their account.

Being so solicitous about the public safety we would naturally expect that on the occasion of the "Arabi Pasha" practice, when the Toronto Field Battery fired shells at that famous frigate, the public safety was guaranteed, and that the traffic on the lake, which we are told is enormous, was not hindered. Their arrangements were such a complete success, that the same were in vogue when the Gatling brigade was mowing everything down in front of it, except the target. Here are two occasions upon which the exhibition association went into the lead and gunpowder business, and a rich harvest too they reaped.

I am ready to take the Minister in to my confidence on this occasion and tell him the great secret of the successful arrangements of the Industrial Exhibition Association, they were cheap.

"Dragrope" wants to know about the A. D. C.'s to Lieutenant-Governors. He says that the name of the Quebec A. D. C. does not appear in the Militia List. If he will look up the Postal Guide of Canada,

published by authority of the Postmaster-General, he will find the A. D. C.'s name given and after it, as I hinted before, the mystic letters, "C. A." Surely it is not "Canadian Artillery."

The Queen's Own celebrated the Queen's Birthday at Ottawa and the Grenadiers at Guelph, consequently except for the Royal salute fired by the Toronto Field Battery under Capt. J. P. Beaty, we had no military demonstration.

Hamilton.

The regimental orders of 29th May, published for the information and guidance of the Thirteenth Battalion over the signature of Adjutant Stuart, embody the following:—

Alterations in the Field Exercises of 1884.

The confirmation by general orders, of the promotions to the rank of lieutenants, of 2nd Lieuts. Charles Albert Chapman, and Percy Domville, R.S.I.

Notification that the annual drill will be performed this year at local headquarters.

Regiment will parade for battalion drill on 8th June.

The citizens of Hamilton last night petitioned the City Council to allow the Thirteenth Battalion band to give a series of concerts in the Gore Park during the coming summer. The suggestion was very favourably received by the majority of the council, but obstruction was placed in the way, as a matter of course. The 13th are getting used to that now. It has been said that "music hath charms to soothe the savage breast," and generally speaking it has, but it would appear that there are two savage—perhaps I should say unmusical—members of the Hamilton City Council who refuse to be charmed. I would suggest to the officers of the corps that Bandmaster Robinson be authorized to give a free exhibition of his talent, inviting a full delegation of the Council to attend, when if he and his magnificent band still remain unappreciated by these two refractory savages—I mean city fathers—I have no doubt the genial bandmaster, overflowing with music, and in the fulness of his heart, would be most happy to give them an able rendition of the "Dead March" which would, from striking a kindred chord, doubtless meet with their approval.

Capt. Mewburn, lately promoted, has been posted to the command of "G" Company, and although having been practically in command as a sub. for some time past, the members of the company are to be congratulated upon the permanent accession of this energetic young officer to the post which he now occupies. Good results will undoubtedly follow.

Major Van Wagner, ably assisted by his officers and Sergt. Kerley, is rapidly getting the battery into shape. From present indications they will be in good condition for field service by 12th June.

"GIRTY."

Guelph.

The 10th Royal Grenadiers of Toronto were at Guelph on the Queen's birthday 360 strong, under command of Major Dawson. Besides going through the usual parade movement, they trooped the colours, greatly to the pleasure of the hosts of Guelph citizens turned out to see the visitors. In the afternoon the Grenadiers interested themselves in the athletic sports, notably in a tug of war between a team of ten of their men and one of the same number from the 1st Brigade Field Artillery of Guelph. A handsome silver cup was the prize offered. The Grenadiers, besides being stronger men, had the advantage of long experience in such contests and won the cup easily. At the request of the team, Capt. Davidson presented the cup to Capt. Manley, in recognition of his services as captain of the team on many such occasions.

An interesting feature of the day's celebration was the school children's parade. Guelph is noted for having the best drilled school corps in Canada. This is the result of the untiring efforts of Capt. Clark, a Crimean veteran. The children turned out over 1,200 strong, and headed by the fife and drum band, city band and Highland Cadets, marched to the exhibition grounds. There they competed for about \$300 worth of prizes. The principal competition was in company drill.

In the evening the Guelph City and the Royal Grenadiers band played a number of popular selections in the park. At the same time the city council entertained the officers at dinner. Lieut.-Col. McDonald, the mayor, presided, while D. Guthrie, Q.C., Ald. Gowdy and Ald. W. G. Smith occupied the vice chairs.

Literature. Alden's new illustrated weekly magazine, is certainly one of the brightest, handsomest and most readable of the literary papers, of course it is the cheapest, for Alden publishes it; \$1.00 a year; specimen copy free. Especially interesting papers in the last issue are; Lew Vanderpoole on Romance in Fiction; Frederick Hastings on John Ruskin's Forge, and Edmund Gosse on Henrik Ibsen, the Scandinavian poet, which is accompanied by a fine portrait. It is a good paper for every home library. John B. Alden, Publisher, 393 Pearl St., New York; 218 Clark Street, Chicago.

The Militia Pastime.

A National Rifle Association has been established in South Australia.

The North of England volunteers are urging that, Wimbledon being necessarily abandoned, the N. R. A. prize meeting should take place at Altcar, at least in 1889.

The Guernsey Island Team of fifteen from whom will be chosen the eight to compete for the Kolapore cup at Wimbledon, are making high scoring in their practices. On the 8th of May the fifteen averaged 85 points over the three ranges, and the top eight averaged within a fraction of 88.

"Rifle shooting as a mere amusement appears to be at a standstill, but rifle shooting as a part of military instruction has never been more popular or more efficiently conducted than was the case at Creedmoor during 1887." So spoke General Wingate at the last meeting of the U. S. National Rifle Association.

The Frontier Rifle Association will have their 26th annual prize meeting on Tuesday, 12th June, and following days, the range being on the farm of Mr. Alex. Thompson, near the village of Huntingdon, Q. There are six matches on the programme, and valuable prizes are offered in each. A challenge cup presented by Dr. Wells is offered as first prize in a volley firing competition for company teams of four to six men each.

In a competition at Dunball range, England, on the 12th inst., Major Foster Barham, captain of the Somerset Twenty, made two full scores, at 500 and 600 yards respectively, there being about an hour's interval between the shooting at each range. The conditions were seven shots at each, Martini rifle, without sighting shots. At 200 yards, Major Barham made 28, which with the two 35's gave him the grand total of 98 over the three ranges.

The New York *Herald*, referring to the necessity for thorough rifle practice, caustically remarks: "This practice is a very necessary thing to equip properly a man whose duty it is to shoot when told to. There are many men who can shoot, but there are not so many who can hit what they shoot at. This was demonstrated very conclusively at the outbreak of the Civil War by the volunteers, who shot thousands of tons of lead into the air instead of into the bodies of their friends the enemy."

The Governor of Cape Colony is fully alive to the importance of encouraging rifle shooting in the force there. "To be a good marksman," he says, "a man must have a quick, clear eye, a steady hand, and a firm nerve, and to secure and retain those advantages, he must lead an active, healthy life, and 'be temperate in all things.' So that the requirements of the pursuit exercise a very beneficial influence upon the personal habits and physical condition of those who are engaged in it. Again, a thorough knowledge of the capabilities of the weapon with which he is armed, and skill in the use of it, are amongst the first requisites in any volunteer who has the slightest pretensions to be a soldier."

The first of a series of three matches to be held to select the team to represent Nova Scotia in the Inter-Maritime-Provincial match was shot at Bedford ranges on the 24th May. Over thirty competitors were present and some excellent scores were made, the first eight making an average of 89¼. The following were the scores of the ten highest (Martini rifles, 200, 500, 600.):

Gunner Fader, 1st H.G.A.	31	34	30	95
Major Weston, 66th P.L.F.	28	33	31	92
Sergeant-Major Case, 1st H.G.A.	26	29	34	89
Lieut. Fiske, 63rd Rifles	27	31	30	88
Capt. Adams, 1st H.G.A.	31	28	29	88
Lieut. Flowers, 1st H.G.A.	31	30	27	88
Major Egan, 63rd Rifles.	28	31	28	87
Sergt. Corbin, "	28	27	31	86
Lieut. Dimock, 1st H.G.A.	27	32	27	86
Bomb. Campbell, "	30	29	23	82

The inter-maritime will be shot this year at Bedford between teams of eight representing Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. The trophy has been purchased and will be on exhibition shortly.

Lieut. Gray and Mr. T. McJanet captured the senior and junior spoons respectively at the fourth competition of the Ottawa Rifle Club, held on Saturday afternoon last. Lieut. Gray put in an exceptionally fine score, 88 points out of 100 possible, and had a lead of nine points on the field, the next being Mr. J. W. Marks, of Montreal, with 79. These two are both on the Wimbledon team of this year, and in getting himself into trim Mr. Marks comes from Montreal every week to shoot with the Ottawa club, there being no ranges available in Montreal. The shooting was with Martini rifles, at 500 and 600 yards, ten shots at each, and the following were the scores of 50 and over:

Gray, H. H. (senior spoon)	44	44	88	Carroll, T.	41	33	74
Marks, J. W.	45	34	79	Smith, F. W.	39	34	73
Sherwood, A. P.	36	41	77	Boville, T. C.	33	33	66
Sutherland, E. D.	39	37	76	Cooke, W. E.	37	25	62
McJanet T. (junior spoon)	42	34	76	Hutchison, Dr. G.	35	25	60
Jamieson, W. A.	37	38	75	Lightfoot, F. C.	31	28	59
Hutcheson, J. E.	38	37	75	Nutting, J. P.	25	33	58
Ellis, J. H.	39	36	75	Cox, C. F.	27	29	56
Perley, H. F.	38	36	74	Holtby, W.	29	21	50

On the Queen's Birthday a keenly contested Martini match took place on the Hamilton range between teams captained by Major Mason, president of the Victoria Rifle Club; and Lieut.-Col. Gibson, ex-president, respectively. The President's team got a lead of 5 points at 200 yards, and increased it to 12 at 500, but the ex-President's put on a spurt at 600, and scoring 118 to 103, won the contest with three points to spare. The teams, with their scores, were as follows: Ex-presidents—Lt.-Col. Gibson, 82; Henry Marris, 85; O. Hancock, 70; D. Mitchell, 68; James Adam, 65—total, 370. President's—Major Mason, 66; Andrew Murdoch, 88; Dr. Ross, (Dundas) 66; Jas. R. Adam, 78; Dugald Henderson, 69—total, 367.

The Victoria Rifle Club of Hamilton at their annual meeting on the 20th inst. unanimously re-elected Major J. J. Mason president, and chose the following other officers: First-vice, Major H. McLaren; 2nd vice, Capt. E. G. Zealand; secretary-treasurer, Mr. Albert Pain; management committee, Messrs. A. Crawford, O. Hancock, P. T. Robertson, W. H. Clarke, and Capt. Adam. The other business being over, the president, Major Mason, pleasantly surprised his predecessor in office, Lieut.-Col. Gibson, M.P.P., by reading him a complimentary address from the club, expressive of their appreciation of his many years' service as president and as secretary, and asking his acceptance of a silver salver as a memento of the occasion. The salver is a very handsome piece of plate, and the address, which was engrossed by Mr. Dugald Henderson, is a work of art which reflects very great credit upon him. Col. Gibson in replying said it was a pleasing feature of the presentation that it should be received from the hands of the old veteran marksman, Mr. George Murison, who though well up in years was, as all were glad to see, still able to take his place at the firing points. He also rejoiced to see present on such an occasion men like Captain Adam, Joseph Mason, and the President, who twenty years ago, he remembered very well, kindly used their best efforts to bring him on as a promising young shot and to take him out of the list of duffers. Stronger friendships have been formed and cemented on rifle ranges than probably in any other known sport, no rifleman failing to rejoice in seeing a brilliant score made by any of his competitors.

There are upwards of 2,000 general officers in the British army, exclusive of 1,600 Indian generals who have retired.]

It is reported from Gibraltar that when the Inspector-General of fortifications, attended by other officers from England, and accompanied by the governor and staff, recently inspected the fortifications, the 100-ton gun mounted in the Magdala battery was fired at a target, with the result of breaking down the hydraulic gear on. Its recoil in the United States the breech-block of their new 10-inch gun stuck so fast in firing that, notwithstanding every effort during three weeks, it remained immovable, until it was feared that the block, which cost about £250, would have to be bored out. Evidently the high powder charges do not agree with the constitution of the modern guns and their complicated contrivances.



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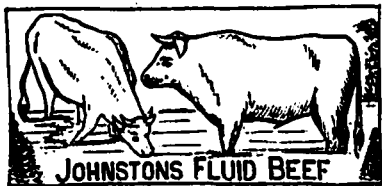
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SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Indian Supplies," will be received at this office up to noon of THURSDAY, 7th June, 1888, for the delivery of Indian Supplies during the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1889, consisting of Flour, Bacon, Groceries, Ammunition, Twine, Oxen, Cows, Bulls, Agricultural Implements, Tools, &c., duty paid, at various points in Manitoba and the North-West Territories.

Forms of tender containing full particulars relative to the Supplies required, dates of delivery, etc., may be had by applying to the undersigned, or to the Indian Commissioner at Regina, or to the Indian office, Winnipeg.

Parties may tender for each description of goods (or for any portion of each description of goods, separately or for all the goods called for in Schedule) and the Department reserves to itself the right to reject the whole or any part of a tender.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted Cheque in favour of the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs on a Canadian Bank, for at least five per cent of the amount of the tender which will be forfeited if the party tendering declines to enter into a contract based on such tender when called upon to do so, or if he fails to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

Each tender must, in addition to the signature of the tenderer be signed by two securities acceptable to the Department for the proper performance of the contract.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. This advertisement is not to be inserted by any newspaper without the authority of the Queen's Printer, and no claim for payment by any newspaper not having had such authority will be admitted.

L. VANKOUGHNET,

Deputy of the Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs.

Department of Indian Affairs, }
Ottawa, May, 1888.

JOHN MARTIN & Co

MILITARY OUTFITTERS,

457 ST. PAUL ST.,

MONTREAL,