

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.
No. 5, of 1st March, 1889.

Topics of the Week.

The Queen's Own Rifles gain a good officer in the person of Lieut. J. F. Crean, the popular Sergeant-Major, who has just left the non-commissioned for the commissioned ranks. An enthusiast in military matters of every kind, Mr. Crean was simply invaluable as a Sergeant-Major, and it will be no easy task to fill that important position as for many years he has filled it.

As will be seen in the Militia General Orders published in this issue, Lt.-Col. the Hon. J.A. Ouimet, the Speaker of the House of Commons, has resigned the command of the 65th Battalion Mount Royal Rifles. He will be succeeded by Major Dugas. His retirement will be learned with regret, making one less the number of Active Militiamen in parliament. But as Col. Ouimet retains his rank, he will doubtless retain also a lively interest in the force.

Having resolved to grant the kit allowance to the York and Simcoe battalion that served in the North-West in 1885, the Government will make amends for the delay by adding interest for the three and a half years which have elapsed since the other corps on active service were paid their allowance. Such, at least, was implied in the answer made by Sir John Macdonald in the House on Monday, in answer to Mr. Mullock. To that gentleman, and to Lieut.-Cols. O'Brien, Tyrwhitt, and Denison, the York and Simcoe Battalion are not a little indebted for the patient perseverance with which they have pressed the claim upon the attention of the Government.

One of the many victims of the catastrophe to a Grand Trunk train at the bridge at St. George, Ont., last week, was Surgeon-Major L. H. Swan, of the 22nd Battalion. The remains were interred at Woodstock on Saturday, 2nd inst. with military honours. The deceased was a zealous and enthusiastic officer, and with one exception was the oldest medical officer in the militia force of No. 1 district. He and the present commanding officer of the battalion joined the old Embro "Highland Rifle Company" on the same day, 27 years ago, and at the time of his death were the only "charter members" still in the regiment. During this long service it may be stated that he never missed a parade of the battalion and he was a very active worker on regimental committees. His untimely death is greatly felt by all ranks. The funeral cortege was composed of nearly all the officers, the band, and about 70 rank and file besides an immense number of citizens. The escort was officered by Captains Davis and Macqueen and Lieut. Anderson. The pall bearers were Lieut.-Col. Munro, Major Loveys, Captains Bleakley, Day, Hegler and Ball.

The Infantry School at St. Johns.

It is sincerely to be hoped that the matter of removing the School of Infantry now in operation at St. John's, P. Q., to some locality where its usefulness will be greater, will ere long receive the serious consideration of the Government. Time and again we have referred to the matter, and while printing one reason after another for the choice of some other site, have invited answers from any who favour the present location. No answer has come, save from a St. Johns newspaper which would perhaps be considered wanting in loyalty to the town in which it is published did it not advocate the retention of the school there.

The large outlay necessary for the maintenance of the Infantry School system is cheerfully assented to, but in return it is only reasonable to ask the greatest possible benefit derivable under the system governing them. As schools they are all through very expensive, the cost per certificate granted being, as pointed out in detail a few weeks ago, exceedingly high. But from no other institution is there so insignificant a return as from "B" Royal School of Infantry, located at St. Johns. This is the only Infantry School for the Province of Quebec. The infantry strength of that province is 10,106, and out of this total the school instructed—or granted certificates to, for a few students left without completing the course—only 40 in 1888! Of these 16 were officers and 24 non-commissioned officers and men. Looking at the record of certificates granted at the other institutions for infantry instruction, we find that A School, Fredericton, N.B., which in its constituency—the three maritime provinces—has a total infantry strength of 4,966, had qualified 29 officers and 20 men. C School, Toronto, qualified 43 officers and 44 men, and D School, London, open only for two-thirds of the year, had qualified 25 officers and 21 men. The infantry strength of Ontario, from which the 133 officers instructed by these schools presumably came, is 15,059. In other words, A School instructed one in every 100 in its constituency—the maritime provinces. C and D Schools instructed one in every 113 infantry men in their constituency—the Province of Ontario; whilst B School instructed only one for every 255 in the infantry corps of the Province of Quebec! These calculations are made on the assumption that none went out of their proper districts for instruction; but we believe a few Ontario officers and men, crowded out of the Ontario schools, went to St. Johns as an alternative, and certain Quebec Province officers for reasons of their own preferred the Toronto school to that at St. Johns. So that the showing of the latter school is even worse than appears from the foregoing figures.

One may well inquire what is the reason for all this. It is certainly not that there is less need of instruction in the Quebec battalions than in those of the other provinces; and we fancy the Quebec officers will be slow to admit that they are less than any others desirous of making themselves efficient. The oft repeated fact remains—the school is a failure in its present location. Establish it in Montreal, and we believe its success would be assured. Its presence too would be a stimulus to that already enthusiastic body the Montreal force. A heavy expense would be involved in providing new quarters, and the Opposition outcry

at the militia expenditure may serve to stay the hand of the Government for a while, but the outlay is one which must eventually be made.

It is interesting to note what its best friend, the Commandant, Lieut.-Col. D'Orsonnens, says of the school in his last annual report to the D. A. G.: "I regret to have to remind again," he says, "that St. Johns is without targets and ranges, that my efforts to obtain them have failed, and that unless my proposals to settle this difficulty are entertained we shall be without any means of training the attached officers and men and our own corps in a time when all parading movements are discarded for the true training of soldiers for active service. * * * Theory is not sufficient for men who will have to teach the practice in camps of instruction." This paragraph in the report inspires a reference to the ammunition returns, and from these it seems that not one round of ball or blank ammunition was issued in 1888 for the use of the men of B Company or of those attached for instruction. Gen. Middleton says: "Our small force of permanent troops should at least be all good shots." And yet for want of target accommodation one-fourth of the permanent infantry forces are, it seems, maintained without any attempt at practical instruction in the most useful part of a soldier's education.

To our knowledge some of the best men in the service are to be found on the muster roll of B School. In branding the institution an utter failure we do not desire to reflect in any way upon those who serve at it. They have no doubt made the most of a very bad case; and it is a cause for regret that so much talent should for so long have been allowed to go unapplied.

Pensions for Public Servants.

A pension system for the North-West Mounted Police is about to be submitted for the approval of Parliament, notice having been given by Sir John Macdonald. This scheme provides that a pension for life may be paid to any member of the police, other than a commissioned officer, if he joined the force subsequent to the 23rd May, 1873, and has served 25 years, or if, after 15 years' service, he is compelled to retire on account of bodily or mental infirmity. The scale is to be fixed thus: For the completion of 15 but less than 21 years' service, one-fiftieth of the amount payable for each completed year; for 21 and less than 25 years' service, twenty-fiftieths, and in addition two-fiftieths for every year of service over twenty; for 25 years, thirty-fiftieths, and in addition one-fiftieth for every completed year over 25, not to exceed, however, two-thirds of his annual pay at retirement. The annual pay is to be deemed the annual average pay, exclusive of extra pay or allowances, during the three years preceding retirement; and if the infirmity causing the retirement is caused by the evil habits of the member retiring a less amount may be fixed as his pension.

We would like to see some such scheme as this submitted for the benefit of the men of the permanent militia corps of Canada; and have no doubt that having adopted the principle for the police, the Government will shortly apply it to the militia also. These at present have no incentive to remain in the service for lengthy periods, as while soldiering they lose proficiency at the occupations which they formerly followed, and, becoming unfitted to fight their way through the world on even terms, have a decidedly poor outlook for old age. The want of such a pension system has been much felt, and has led to not a few desertions by men who, realising that by serving in the permanent corps they were only wasting time so far as securing provision against age or infirmity was concerned, have not troubled themselves with securing permission to leave, but have deserted upon the first favourable opportunity offering.

The position of the officers of the permanent corps is equally discouraging, and though an officer cannot profitably desert, he has other

means of putting upon record his lack of appreciation of the conditions of service. Take for instance the case of the two officers, Captains Freer and Scars, who left but a few months ago to rejoin the Imperial regiment in which they had previously served, and from which they were absent on leave while in this country. They were Canadian citizens, graduates of the Royal Military College, and had strong affection for our service, in which they had proved themselves exceedingly valuable officers. Here however, they had no prospect worth looking forward to. In the Imperial army, on the other hand, they have but to serve a few years more, and then be at liberty to retire with a handsome annual allowance. Canada cannot, and need not, attempt to rival the mother country in generosity to her soldiers, but she can well afford to make such provision for those who give the best part of their lives to the military service; that they may be relieved from the dread of want in their old age.

The Duties of Quartermasters.

It is the duty of the Quartermaster to take charge of all stores of every description belonging to the corps, and to issue them, on the requisition of captains of companies, as may be authorized and required. He receives ammunition and camp equipage. He attends to the billeting of the men, to the laying out of the camp, and has the superintendence of the loading and conveyance of the baggage of his corps when on the march. He is responsible for the cleanliness of the camp or barracks (R. & O. Militia, para. 182-184). He attends the commanding officer at all inspections of barracks, camps or stores. In all his transactions he is the agent of the commanding officer, and is responsible to him alone. The Quartermaster-Sergt. is especially under the Quartermaster, and assists him.

All stores are obtained on requisition (Form No. 4, S.B.). Requisitions are to be made out in duplicate (one copy marked "Original" and the other "Duplicate"); the different articles required mentioned in detail, preferably in alphabetical order, using the nomenclature of the "Priced Vocabulary," and the reason for the demand given. They are made out by the Q.M., signed by the C.O., and forwarded through the proper channel to headquarters.

Ammunition—When received, the Q.M. should compare vouchers with packages received; get receipt vouchers signed by the C.O. and returned without delay to the officer who sent the ammunition; see it safely deposited in the magazine. All empty packages must be returned to the nearest district store. The ammunition is issued on requisition by the Q.M. to captains of companies, who are responsible to the C.O. for its care and expenditure. (Q. R., sec. xii., 67-78; R. & O., 437-448.)

The equipment of a corps includes all articles of stores (excepting clothing, necessaries or books and stationery) which it holds in *permanent* charge. It does not include the barrack stores which it finds in barracks and takes over with them for temporary use, to be handed back when it leaves the station. The equipment of a corps may be said to *belong* to it, and travels with it wherever it goes, and may be broadly stated to consist of arms (including small arms, field artillery guns and all their accessory stores); accoutrements and pioneer appointments; carriages, wagons and vehicles of all kinds, with spare wheels and other subsidiary stores; harness and saddlery; musical instruments, such as trumpets, bugles, flutes and drums; band instruments (if supplied at public charge); tools for workshops and artificers; implements for signalling; articles for musketry instruction; camp equipment and intrenching tools; veterinary stores; miscellaneous articles, such as squad bags, chests, handcuffs, &c.; material for repairs; ammunition of all kinds.

A large portion of the equipment of every corps is distributed among the men or horses of the corps to form their personal equipment, but a considerable portion is for the use of the corps generally. The technical designation of every article of stores, in the Imperial service, is published in the "Priced Vocabulary of Stores," and it is ordered that these designations are to be strictly adhered to in making out requisitions. On receipt, the contents of each package are counted over and compared with the packing note placed within it and the total quantities with the receipt voucher. The condition of the stores is examined and deficiencies or damages reported on by Regimental Board of Survey. The stores issued to a corps are not necessarily *new*, it is sufficient if they be *serviceable*. If on examination the board entertain any doubts as to the serviceability of the stores, the C. O. must take objection to the stores before he signs the receipt voucher. Such of the stores as may be accepted as serviceable or pronounced to be so, are taken in charge and entered as receipts in the corps' equipment ledger. Corps marks are added (R. & O., 318 330) to those already on the stores, and also a special number by which each article

may be identified. Arms and accoutrements are made up into *sets*; each set receives a number, which is marked on each article of the set. This number is one of a series running from "1" upwards to the full complement of sets allowed to the corps. No blanks are left in this series of numbers, and if by chance an article be lost, that which replaces it takes the number of the set. The numbers have no connection with the *regimental* numbers of men who use the sets. The men are chargeable if they lose, make away with, or damage any article of their equipment. Unlike clothing, which varies in value according to its state of wear, the value of equipment always remains the same. Frequent inspections of the equipment by or under the orders of the C. O. are necessary to ascertain its complete efficiency or secure its timely repair. In the permanent corps the commandants are required to inspect and report semi-annually. For transfer of stores see R. & O. 78.

Certain articles of equipment have fixed periods of duration assigned to them, which are those for which they usually remain in a serviceable condition; but it by no means follows that at the expiration of these periods they are to be considered unserviceable; therefore no C. O. is justified in requiring to be relieved of certain articles of equipment simply on the ground that they have been in use this or that time. The application must be on the ground that they are unserviceable, no longer required, or that orders have been received for their return to Store. A C. O. may assemble a regimental board of officers to assist him with its opinion as to the condition of stores, but no *regimental* board can condemn stores. A district or garrison board is the only one that can do so.

No correspondence or memoranda, other than what is prescribed by regulations, should ever appear on the paper of a voucher. In the event of an officer receiving a consignment of stores which does not agree with the vouchers, he should return both receipt and delivery voucher (unsigned) to the consignor for alteration. He makes his remarks on a separate paper, which he sends with the vouchers.

When a corps leaves a station, it returns to the store department, by requisition, any stores which it may have received on loan or for local use, together with its ammunition, except so much as may be required to furnish guards and escorts with twenty rounds per man; but as a general rule it keeps all its equipment. The equipment ledger is the book containing the enumeration of all the equipment stores of the corps, and the account of their being taken on charge or struck off charge. The form of this book necessarily varies according to the branch of the service.

As soon as stores have been received and accepted as serviceable, they are entered as receipts in the proper columns on the debit side of the ledger. These entries will, for the most part, be of stores received from the store department, but there may be entries of stores received on transfer from other corps, or of articles of equipment manufactured regimentally, or of articles which, having been written off as lost or destroyed (by desertion or otherwise) are found and again brought on charge. The issues recorded in the equipment ledger are noted on the credit side in a similar manner to receipts, and will generally consist of entries of stores returned to store department as unserviceable, as surplus, or under direct instructions; exceptionally, of entries of stores transferred to other corps; or lost, deficient, destroyed, made away with, etc., when (after due formalities) authority has been received to write them off charge; or as expended. Unlike clothing, an article of equipment remains on charge in the ledger from the time it is received until it finally passes out of the corps. The "register of arms and accoutrements" is a book in which is kept a record of all the *sets* which are in possession of the men. Separate columns are allotted for the separate articles forming the sets, and one column gives the name and regimental number of the soldier holding each set. The articles are entered by inserting their dates of issue and not by their number since they all bear the same number.

The term "clothing" in its widest sense includes two sets of articles; the first consists of articles *specifically* termed clothing, which are supplied to each soldier at certain periods and never cease to belong to the Government; the other set of articles are termed "necessaries" which the soldier receives but once free, and which he must maintain at his own expense during his whole term of service.

Previous to sending in the requisition for clothing, the master tailor should make out a size-roll of all the men on the establishment. This document, which is attached to the requisition, give the measurement of the men necessary to secure the issue to the corps of the right quantity of garments of the appropriate sizes (Form 286). As soon as any consignment of clothing or necessaries arrives at the headquarters of the corps, a regimental board of survey is assembled by the C.O. in presence of which the packages are counted, opened, and the contents carefully examined and checked over with the packing notes or invoices. It is customary in the Imperial service for the board to be composed of the three officers next in seniority to the C.O. The board should test the size of

ready-made clothing by trying on not less than ten per cent. of them on men of corresponding sizes. Damages, deficiencies, excesses, discrepancies with sealed patterns, defects in workmanship, differences in size between any garment and the ticket upon it, are noted by the board and reported in the proceedings which it sends in to the C.O. If all is found correct the C. O. signs and returns the receipt voucher for the consignment. A regimental board cannot finally condemn any articles, but may reject them, recording its opinion that the articles ought to be condemned. The C.O. forwards this opinion, with any remarks, to headquarters. The clothing and necessaries after being passed by the board of survey, are stored in the quarter-master's store and entered on his books. They can then be drawn upon by requisitions signed by captains of companies.

All articles of clothing should be marked in the Quarter-master's store previous to issue with the soldier's regimental number, the abbreviated designation of the regiment, and the date of issue. Necessaries are marked with regimental number only. Soldiers requiring articles of clothing on payment obtain them from stock in regimental store. Quartermasters have no right to deal directly with the men. Their dealings are with the C. O. on the one hand, and the captains of companies on the other. A return should be made out monthly for the Paymaster showing the articles issued on payment and their value, and the total amount is deducted from the company pay list; a similar return showing the articles issued *in detail* and to whom issued is furnished to captains of companies, who debit the men with the amount in the ledger accounts. Thus no actual cash is handled in connection with the transaction. Acting on behalf of the C.O. the Quartermaster inspects all requisitions from officers commanding companies, etc., in order to ascertain that they are warranted by existing regulations; finding that they are, he makes the issue, taking a receipt for the articles. Compensation at the rate of two-thirds the value, may be awarded a soldier in the permanent corps, instead of a fresh annual issue, if his C. O. is satisfied that the clothing in the soldier's possession is fit for use for the whole of another year. A monthly return of clothing and necessaries (270) is forwarded to headquarters showing the stock on hand at the beginning of the month and the receipts and issues during the month and stock remaining. A receipt roll (No. 271) and are payment return (No. 11 S. B.) accompanies it and it is also ordered that the delivery vouchers from the store department shall be attached.

Each officer, n.c.o. and man is entitled to a free daily ration of bread, meat and groceries, except when absent on leave for more than three days, or when illegally absent, or when attached for rations to other corps, or when travelling and drawing an allowance in money. Prisoners in prison or cells get no rations from their corps, as they are rationed in prison or by the provost-sergeant. Men in hospital, if dieted by the hospital authorities, get no rations from their corps. All food required by the soldier over and above the government ration is provided by money stopped from the man's pay. Rations are drawn daily by the Q.M. from the supply officer or direct from the contractors. The demand is based on the ration returns prepared every day by the orderly sergeants of companies. The rations being brought to the ration stand, the orderly officer and Q.M. are there to receive them; the orderly men or "cooks' mates" are also present. The rations are inspected by the orderly officer, who must form his *own* opinion. Quartermasters are forbidden to deal with the *quality* of supplies, and are responsible only that the quantity is correct.

If the rations be considered by the orderly officer to be unfit for issue he reports the matter through the proper channel to his C.O., who causes a board to assemble. If the board reports favourably the rations are of course issued; if not, an equal quantity of provisions may be purchased directly, and the extra cost, if any, charged to the contractor. The rations for officers "in mess" are issued to the mess man (R. & O., 654-663). Forage is drawn for government horses, and under regulations by some officers when the horse for which the forage is drawn is *bona fide* his own property. The ration in quarters for permanent corps is 10 lbs. oats, 15 lbs. hay and 8 lbs. straw daily. An officer absent on leave may dispose of his horse for the time as he thinks fit, but he must cease to draw forage for such as he does not leave at the station, available to be employed for the public service, which means that a horse so left is available for the use of that officer only who performs the absent officer's duty, and not for that of any officer whom it may be desirable to mount. Straw is also required and issued for filling palliases and bolster cases of the men for bedding. In camp straw is sometimes issued without other bedding. Oat straw is the best for this purpose.

Fuel and light are issued according to scale (R. & O. 649-653). For the permanent corps special regulations are published. No officer or others living out of barracks is entitled to fuel or light. The unit of the ration is one inch running measure of an English cord of hardwood. This is equal to 12 lbs. of good hard coal or 14 lbs. of soft coal. The issues are as a rule made weekly, except to guard rooms; which are made

daily, on account of the guard being changed every day. According to regulations fuel rations not drawn or used become the property of the government. Troops are quartered in barracks, camps or billets. R. & O. 170. Q. R. VII 24 xv). Any damage done by the troops is made a charge against them. Ash pits should as a rule be emptied daily. Soil pits and sewage-tanks as considered necessary. Disinfecting pits, drains, latrines, urinals, etc., is done by the troops. Lime is used for pits and surface drains. Carbolic acid, chloride of lime, sulphate of iron, sulphate of copper are good disinfectants. Chimneys for which fuel is drawn should be swept monthly. Ordinary interior walls in barracks should be white-washed not oftener than every six months, in ordinary cases, but not less frequently than once a year. The white-washing is done by the troops. Barracks and barrack utensils and stores should be frequently inspected and the damages entered on the report. It is the Quartermaster's duty, under the direction of the C.O., to attend to these matters.

Upon leaving any station a marching out inspection is had. The Quartermaster, as soon as the route is received, makes regimental arrangements for closing all ration returns and other supply accounts. He also makes arrangements as to the conveyance of the baggage. The actual quantities of baggage allowed to be carried at the public expense, for regimental officers and men and for regimental stores of all kinds, are fixed by Regulations. Semi-annual inspections by a board of officers are held at the various stations (R. & O., 825 to 834). This is the time to bring forth any stores that are considered to be unserviceable or requiring repairs beyond the means of the corps to effect.

Quartermasters on appointment have the relative rank of captain; after ten years service as majors, honorary (combatant) rank may be conferred (R. & O. 94-95). Neither convey any military command. Para. 95 says that "Relative rank confers no military status or command." This is evidently an error as it is impossible for anyone to hold a military position and perform purely military duties without a military status. Relative rank does not entitle the holder to the presidency of courts of inquiry, committees or boards (R. & O. 150). From this it may be inferred that it does entitle the holder to the precedence of the rank as a member. The Manual of Military Law, chap. V., 14, says: "Relative rank does not entitle an officer to the presidency of a court martial; but he is legally qualified if duly appointed. In practice a combatant officer is always appointed." Rule of Procedure 57 directs "that in the case of a regimental court-martial consisting entirely of officers of the same corps, they will take their seats according to their rank in that corps."

Royal warrant for pay and promotion, Article 114, reads: "Honorary rank shall carry precedence and (except as provided in article 1201) other advantages attaching to corresponding military rank; but shall not entitle the holder of such rank to military command of any kind, or to the presidency of courts-martial, courts of inquiry, committees, or boards of survey."

Q.

The first intercolonial rifle meeting under the auspices of the federal council of the rifle associations of Australasia began at the Sandy Bay range Dec. 18 last year under very favourable conditions. The competitors engaged numbered 155.

Gen. Boulanger, says a despatch, most emphatically denies that he entertains any hostility toward England. Stuart Cumberland, the mind reader, read Gen. Boulanger's thoughts lately. He gave President Carnot a six months' lease of power and traced Boulanger's march on Germany *via* Stuttgart. The general declared Cumberland's interpretation to be correct.

The transfer of the remains of certain British officers who fell at Waterloo, or died in consequence of wounds received during the battle, from the cemetery in the Quartier Léopold to the Evère Cemetery was effected recently. The delegates of the English Waterloo Monument Committee at Brussels, the Rev. A. K. Harlock and Mr. Morgan, were present. The names of these officers are Major John Lane, 73rd Foot; Major W. J. Lloyd, R. A.; Captain Stothers, 3rd Foot Guards; Lieut. M. P. Crome, R.A.; Lieut. John Mills, 2nd Dragoons; Major John Lucie Blackman, Coldstream Guards; Lieut. C. Spearman, R.A.; Lieut. John Clyde, 23rd Welsh Fusiliers; and Colonel Sir F. H. de Lacey. The old cemetery presents quite the aspect of an English rural churchyard. On the graves being opened the well-preserved skeletons of the officers—all very tall men—were disclosed, and the signs of wounds and amputations were plainly discernible. Each skeleton was placed in a zinc coffin inscribed with the hero's name, transported in a hearse to Evère, and buried there in its temporary grave, every grave being marked with a stake bearing the name. The old tombstones were also transported to Evère. The operations were carried on with much reverent care.

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 RIFLE SHOOTING OF THE RANK AND FILE.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—In reading in your valuable paper the report of the Deputy Adjutants General, I notice some reference made (notably in No. 9 district) to the want of encouragement given to the rank and file in rifle shooting, and also some comments on the fact that commissioned officers compete in rifle matches with privates.

Of the systems followed in other districts in reference to the first subject I cannot give an opinion, but I think the report of No. 9 is misleading. Take for instance the six regiments ordered for drill the past year; the three city corps mustering 824 rank and file and the three rural corps mustering 792. The city corps certainly did not suffer for want of encouragement, as each company had a most elaborate prize list provided, the officers being the principal contributors, in some cases nearly every man present securing a prize. That the three rural regiments referred to in the report were not so fortunate shows not a want of encouragement by the government, but a lack of interest by the officers of these corps. I do not wish to make any invidious comparisons between the different regiments, but the report draws particular attention to those that did not give any encouragement to the rifle practice of the men, and makes no mention of the encouragement given to the men of the other three.

The government now give liberally towards rifle shooting, and the money is applied so as to give the best general results. Whether the commanding officers of a corps should devote a small portion of their means to a like object is, of course, a matter for themselves to decide. In the city corps referred to above each has its own way of contributing the money for the company and battalion shooting. In one regiment the officers hand in all their government pay for this and other regimental purposes; in another the officers contribute according to rank, captains paying \$10 and subalterns \$5 each towards the company and three days' pay each towards the battalion shooting. In the other corps the contributions are optional, but no less universally made. In justice to those corps mention might have been made of the fact that the men were not neglected.

That all members of the force are not sufficiently expert with the rifle to compete successfully at the Provincial and Dominion matches cannot be attributed to the want of encouragement given to the company or battalion shooting, for the three city corps mentioned have had since their formation every encouragement, but in anything of a competitive character some individuals will surpass their fellows, and as a natural consequence take a prominent place in the organization. This naturally suggests the other matter referred to in the report. To debar a member of the force who is a good rifle shot from taking a commission would not be advisable, for good men are not so easily found, but this would be one of the results should commissioned officers be prohibited from competing at rifle matches as suggested in the report. That the mixing of officers and men at rifle matches has been sanctioned for a long time, by some of the best authorities on these matters, can be seen by referring to the reports of the Dominion Rifle Association. I find that in 1873 the Brigade Major of No. 5 District took prizes, and in the following year as Lieut.-Col. competed successfully with gunners and privates at Ottawa, but to come to later years.

At our last Provincial matches quite a number of the officers of the Royal Navy and the York and Lancaster regiment took part, and in the All Comers' match I notice that a number of the Royal Navy took first prize and Captain Lousada of the York and Lancaster came in twentieth, Commander Primrose, Major Ford and a number of officers of the regular Army and Royal Navy not securing a dollar although they tried hard for it. It will hardly be said that those gentlemen either lost in dignity or impaired the discipline of the military or naval service by competing on the rifle range with gunners and privates. The General Commanding, Lord Russell, would not likely allow them to enter should any such results be liable to follow.

In the inter-regimental matches held in the regular army and for which prizes are offered by the war department, the teams are composed of all ranks. At our Provincial meetings held for the past twenty years one of the most interesting matches, open to teams from the army, navy and militia, has been regularly taken part in by teams from the army and navy stationed at Halifax, and the officers on those teams have always accepted the prizes they have won. In the rifle matches in Great Britain (at Wimbledon and other places) open to the army and navy all ranks compete, and I have yet to learn that the discipline of the English army has very much deteriorated during the twenty-eight years that rifle shooting has been one of the most important features of a military training. As we are taught to look up to the Imperial forces as patterns and guides I think we can safely do so in this particular case.

EXCELSIOR.

Regimental News.

THE GRENADIERS' OFFICERS' ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the officers of the Royal Grenadiers was held at the residence of Surgeon Ryerson, College Avenue, on Tuesday evening last week. Lt.-Col. Dawson presided. Nearly all the officers were present. The reports of the different committees were received and adopted.

The Paymaster's report showed the finances of the regiment to be in a satisfactory condition.

Major Mason presented the report of the Band Committee. It showed that the bands of the regiment now number 63 players; 38 in the brass and 25 in the fife and drum (exclusive of the instructors). The committee appointed to raise subscriptions had been very successful. The bands were in possession of first-class instructors and instruments and it was stated that they would shortly be second to none in the Dominion. Mr. J. Waldron, recommended as one of the best bandmasters in the British Army, had been engaged to take charge of the brass band and in less than a year had brought it to the present efficient condition. Permission had been given him to instruct an out of town band, and in all the recent band competitions throughout the province they had carried off the highest honours. There has also been a marked improvement in the fife and drum band under the able management of Mr. Tom Hurst. Both bands have now large and pleasant practice rooms which are practically club rooms.

Capt Bruce the well known shot, read the report of the Rifle Committee. The regiment had achieved many distinctions during the past season, prominent among which were three places on the Wimbledon Team. Staff-Sgt. Tom Mitchell had gained the first aggregate prize at the D. R. A., Private McVittie second place in the Governor-General's (having tied for first), and Sgt. Curzon a good place among the twenty. The team shooting in skirmishing and volley firing matches had met with considerable success at both the great meetings. The annual match had been the most successful yet held. It was decided to abandon the early Wednesday morning target practice and give more attention to the Saturday afternoons.

The following standing committees were then unanimously elected: Band—Major Mason, Capt. Eliot and Lieut. Cameron. Rifle—Capt. Bruce and Howard, Lieut. McKay. Mess—Major Harrison and Lieuts. Lowe and Gibson. The usual minor committees were also appointed.

Assistant Surgeon E. E. King made a verbal report of the progress of the Ambulance Corps, showing it to be in a most efficient condition. He asked for an additional four men, which was granted. The strength now is 16 men and a sergeant.

At the close of the meeting Surgeon Ryerson entertained the officers to a very excellent supper. There were also present Lt. Col. Grasset, Capt. Spencer, Dr. Jones and other ex-officers of the regiment. A most pleasant evening was spent in music and song.

THE QUEENS' OWN SERGEANTS' MESS.

The sixth annual dinner of the Sergeants' mess of the Queen's Own was held at their quarters on Friday evening the 1st inst. and was a decided success. Sergt.-Major Crean occupied the chair. Amongst the guests present were Lt. Col. Gray, Brigade Major, Lt. Col. Miller a former C. O., Major Delamere, Surgeons Leslie and Nattress, Capt. Murray, Bennet, Sankey, Green, McGee and Macdonald, Q.O.R. and Capt. C. McDougall, R.S. I.; Lieuts Lee, Knifton, Wyatt, Robinette and Chaplain Lloyd.

Those who expressed regret that they were unable to attend were: Sir Alexander Campbell, Sir F. Middleton, Col. F. C. Denison, M.P., C.M.G., Col. Otter, D.A.G., Col. G. T. Denison, G.G. B.G., Col. H. Smith, R.S.I., Col. Gillmor, R. I., Major Hamilton, Col. Dawson, R.G., His Worship the Mayor of Toronto and Col. Alger. Col. Allan, the commanding officer, was through illness unable to attend.

A tempting menu was served, quite as dainty to the palate as was to the eye, the card upon which the good things were enumerated. Like all Queen's Own publications of that nature, the card was quite a work of art. Space forbids further description or any quotation from the witticisms of the toast list, but the names of the office-bearers in connection with the mess may be appropriately printed. They are: Sergt.-Major Crean; Staff-Sergt. Harp, president; Staff-Sergt. Macdonald, vice-president; Sergt. George, secretary; Sergt. Higinbotham, treasurer, and Sergt. Cauldwell, Sergt. Mackenzie, Col.-Sergt. World and Sergt. Bowden, members of committee.

Just after the toast of "The Queen" came "Our Commanding Officer." Major Delamere, who replied, was received with loud applause. He complimented the sergeants on their work and their new mess uniform, and returned thanks, on behalf of Col. Allan, for the kind sentiments expressed. "The D. A. G." was next in order. Col.

Otter's sponsor was the Brigade Major, who in a witty speech and with honeyed words urged upon those present the benefits the Queen's Own would derive from attending camp at Niagara along with other city corps, the idea being that the Queen's Own, the Royal Grenadiers, the 13th Battalion and the Dufferin Rifles should take advantage of Dominion Day falling upon a Monday this year by going to Niagara on the preceding Saturday and making the most of the time by careful attention to instruction in camp duties, guards, outposts, etc. Capt. MacDougall responded to the health of the "Permanent Corps."

"Our Guests" produced the speech of the evening, which came from an unexpected quarter. Col. Miller, after placing the pros and cons of the Niagara idea alongside one another, said he was glad to hear that the Queen's Own were about to furnish themselves with uniforms at their own expense, as he considered that the regiment had never been properly equipped, giving some ludicrous examples from the late rebellion. "I am very much surprised to hear that you still have the same rotten old equipment used by Wellington at Waterloo." He told how the regiment were compelled to carry their knapsacks *in their arms*, how he had employed a saddler at Winnipeg to repair these useless articles, how when he submitted the account for payment he was asked, "By whose authority was this expenditure sanctioned?" The payment of the account was refused, *but he took to politics*—notwithstanding his advice to "beware of politicians"—and he got the money!

Capt. Sankey and Chaplain Lloyd also responded to "Our Guests." "Our Brother N.C.O.'s." was looked after by Sergt.-Maj. Cox, R.G., Sgt.-Maj. Granger, G.G.B.G., Sgt.-Maj. Woodman, T.F.B. "The Press" and "The Ladies" finished the toast lists.

Col. Gray's statement that the regiment was about to lose their Sgt. Major created a mystery, until the fact was brought out that "he was about to accept a commission." (Applause.)

Staff-Sergt. Williams, Dr. Lesslie, Messrs. Wyatt and Clements sang the patriotic songs of the evening.

The militia members of the Ontario House (the Hon. Lt.-Col. J. M. Gibson, Lt.-Col. Morin, and Major Kearns) were, on account of the House being in session, unable to contribute to the evening's gaiety.

RUSSIAN ARMY DISCIPLINE.

The *Rouskii Invalid* relates a story which does great honour to the Russian army in the person of a private of the 7th Battalion of the line (Western Siberia), by name J. Koungourtsew. When the earthquake of May 28, 1887, destroyed among numerous other buildings the public treasury, Koungourtsew was on sentry at the gate. The walls of the building were on the point of crumbling down, and the poor sentry was threatened with a cruel death. The brave soldier, resigned to his fate, made ready to die. The sergeant on guard luckily ran past at the time and found him with his rifle at the "prayer." It is needless to add that he instantly relieved him. A few seconds later the wall of the treasury crumbled down with a fearful crash. The sentry's fidelity to orders has recently been rewarded by the emperor with a medal with the ribbon of the order of Saint Ann, and a gratuity of 100 rubles.

RECOLLECTIONS OF WELLINGTON.

The following narratives and anecdotes, says Lady de Ross in Murray's Magazine, were told her on various occasions by the duke and taken down at the time; some of them are of historical value and all appear to me interesting as having come from his lips.

The Emperor Paul, meeting an Englishman one day in St. Petersburg, who did not take off his hat to him, inquired the reason, and on being told he was short-sighted, he issued a decree which the duke saw, ordering the Englishman to wear spectacles for the rest of his life.

The duke said: "After the retreat of Bonaparte from Leipsic, he never in fact had any hope of getting over his bad fortune."

"Mole, then Minister of War, told me that shortly after Napoleon's return at that time to Paris, he was playing at billiards with him when he became thoughtful, and laying down his cue, began talking to him of the impossibility of ever reviving the spirit of the nation sufficiently to expel the Northern Powers. Had these reverses, he said, occurred in the first days of the Republic, there would have been a freshness of spirit that might have saved the game, but that spirit was now worn out and never could again be expected to revive. Yet with this depressing conviction on his mind, he went through his wonderful campaign of Champagne with an activity perhaps unparalleled in his former wars." The duke's invariable comment on Napoleon was, "He was not a gentleman."

Said the duke: "As to military education, I am persuaded that the best education for an officer is whatever may be considered fittest education for a gentleman, whether in England or elsewhere. Let that be the foundation, and it is easy to add such technical science as may be necessary for an officer."

Militia General Orders (No. 5) of 1st March, 1889.

No. 1.—PERMANENT CORPS.

Officers who obtain, or have obtained, Long Course certificates subsequent to 4th February, 1887, but previous to their appointment to a Permanent Corps, will only be allowed to count in their four years service for additional pay of fifty cents per diem, the period of six or nine months for their arm of the service, as now fixed for Long Course, instead of twelve months previously allowed.

No. 2.—ACTIVE MILITIA.

1st Brig. Gar. Art.—To be lieutenant, from 1st February, 1889, 2nd Lieut. Foster Elliot, R.S.A., vice Hugh Robert Little, who having failed to attend annual drill, his name is removed from the list of officers of the active militia.

To be assistant surgeon, Arthur Morrow, M.D., vice John Simpson Lathern, deceased.

P. E. I. Brig. Gar. Art.—No. 1 Bat.—*Erratum*—In No. 3 of General Orders (4) 1st February, 1889, read "No. 1 Battery, Charlottetown," instead of "No. 3 Battery, Charlottetown."

Infantry School Corps.—To be captain, Lieut. and Capt. David Douglas Young. Capt. Young has been detached from "A" Co. and attached to "D" Co.

Gov. Gen's Foot Guards.—To be lieutenant, Lieut. George Shepherd Bowie, R.M.C., vice Gray, promoted.

2nd Bn.—To be 2nd lieutenants, Sergt. Major John Francis Crean, S.I. (1st Class B), vice Nelson, promoted. Pte. George Austin Badgerow, prov., vice McLeod, promoted.

To be paymaster with honorary rank of captain, James Frederic William Ross, formerly 2nd lieutenant, prov., vice Hugh Blain, who resigns.

3rd Bn.—To be quartermaster, Staff-Sergt. James Bennett Birks, vice Richard Sharland Bunnett, who resigns.

5th Bn.—To be 2nd lieutenants, prov., Henry Simms, vice J. H. Miller, resigned; John Mackie, vice Rankin, promoted.

12th Bn.—*Erratum*—In No. 4 of General Orders (13) 18th June, 1886, in appointment of "assistant surgeon" read "William Hincks Bentley" instead of "William Hincks Boultey."

13th Bn.—To be captain, Lieut. Frederick Blythe Ross, S.I., vice James William Gordon Watson, who retires with rank of lieutenant.

19th Bn.—To be lieutenant, prov., from 13th December, 1888, Sergt. Thomas Edward Hiscott, vice J. Hiscott, promoted.

To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., from 13th December, 1888, Henry Gordon Ball, vice Millar, appointed quartermaster.

28th Bn.—To be surgeon, Donald B. Fraser, M.D., vice George Smith, deceased.

To be assistant surgeon, William Tiffany Parke, M.D., vice M. J. Hanavan, appointed surgeon in Infantry School Corps.

31st Bn.—To be adjt., Capt. Andrew Ginty Campbell, M.S., from No. 6 Co., vice McLean, transferred to 10th Bn.

32nd Bn.—No. 3 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., Hugh Morrison, vice Donald Campbell, left limits.

To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Duncan Alexander McIntyre, vice Duncan Ontario Cameron, who resigns.

No. 5 Co.—To be captain, Lieut. Adam Weir, R.S.I., vice Oliver Gabel Anderson, who retires with rank of lieutenant.

34th Bn.—No. 4 Co.—To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Walter Bryant Bemister, vice Louis Martin Hayes, who resigns.

35th Bn.—To be quartermaster, John Francis Deane, vice Hon. Capt. Lionel Lincoln Fisher Smith, who retires retaining his honorary rank.

39th Bn.—To be quartermaster, George Henry Luscombe (formerly lieutenant, prov. No. 1 Co.), vice William Ryerson Griffin, deceased.

41st Bn.—No. 4 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., Francis Cole Lalonde, vice Elliott, resigned.

To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Francis Mills Turner, vice Starr, promoted.

42nd Bn.—No. 2 Co.—To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Sergt. John Arthur Reynolds, vice Hutcheson, promoted.

56th Bn.—No. 6 Co.—To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Sergt. John Carmichael, vice Stephenson, resigned.

59th Bn.—Capt. and Adjt. Herbert Clarke, R.M.C., retires retaining rank of captain.

63rd Bn.—To be captain, Lieut. Edgar Augustus Bent, S.I., vice John Thomas Meagher, who retires retaining rank.

To be lieutenant, 2nd Lieut. William Lester Kane, G.S., vice Bent, promoted.

65th Bn.—To be lieutenant-col., Major Calixte Aimé Dugas, M.S., vice the Hon. Joseph Aldéric Ouimet, who retires retaining rank.

86th Bn.—To be major, Lieut. Louis Adolphe Dupuis, V.B., from the adjutancy, vice Dufresne, promoted.

89th Bn.—No. 2 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., Sergt. Joseph Cléophas Frève, vice Cléophas Pageau, left limits.

To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Amédée Gagnon, vice Blanchet, transferred to and promoted in No. 3 Co.

90th Bn.—To be captain, Lieut. Hugh David Tulloch, S.M.I., vice Hugh John McDonald, who retires retaining rank.

To be lieutenant, 2nd Lieut. Henry Edward Macdonell, S.M.I. (1st B), vice Tulloch, promoted.

To be 2nd lieutenants, Hunt Walsh Allan Chambre, S.M.I. (formerly 2nd Lieut. 95th Batt.), vice Macdonell, promoted; Sergt. Thomas Smith, S.M.I. (1st B), vice Currie, promoted; Quartermaster-Sergt. Robert Evans Young, prov., vice Lachlan Campbell Mactavish, left limits; Charles Lewis Benedict, prov., vice Howden, promoted.

To be asst. surgeon, Henry Yarwood Baldwin, M.D., vice James Wm. Whiteford deceased.

Lieut. John Alphonso Healy having left limits, his name is removed from the list of officers of the active militia.

91st Bn.—No. 2 Co.—To be capt., prov., Augustus Mills.

To be lieutenant, prov., Donald Sutherland.

To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., John Alexander Machray.

No. 3 Co.—To be capt., prov., Robert Bullock.

To be lieutenant, prov., Thomas Norquay.

To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., James G. Dagg.

To be asst. surgeon, from 4th January, 1889, Orton J. Grain.

CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

2nd Lieut. James Hedley Fairweather, Gov.-Gen.'s Foot Guards, from 22nd Feb., 1889.

Erratum—In No. 4 of General Orders (2), 4th Jan., 1889, the confirmation of rank of "Capt. George Edwin Allan Jones," 8th Bn., is to be omitted, as that officer holds substantive rank from 19th March, 1886.

No. 3.—CERTIFICATES GRANTED.

Rank, Name and Corps.	Class.	Course.	Grade.	Percentage of marks obtained		
				Written.	Practical.	Aggregate Percentage.
<i>Royal Schools of Infantry.</i>						
Capt. Samuel Maynard Rogers, 43rd Bn.....	1	Sp	A	74½	72	73
2nd Lieut. Jas. Hedley Fairweather, G. G. F. G.....	2	Sp	A	82½	54½	68½

No. 4.—RESERVE MILITIA.

Regtl. Div. of Dundas, Ont.—To be lieutenant-col., Major James Pliny Whitney, vice Alexander G. Macdonell, deceased.

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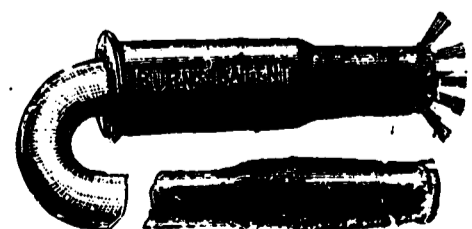
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Post Office Department, Ottawa, 21st May, 1886.



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Plans and Specifications can be seen at the office of the Chief Engineer of Government Railways, Ottawa, where forms of tender may be obtained on and after Wednesday, 20th February, instant.

Each tender must be accompanied by a deposit equal to 5 per centum of the amount of the tender. This deposit may consist of cash or of an accepted bank cheque made payable to the Minister of Railways and Canals, and it will be forfeited if the person tendering neglects or refuses to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or if after entering into a contract he fails to complete the work satisfactorily according to the plan, specification and contract.

If the tender is not accepted the deposit will be returned.

Tenders must be made on the printed forms supplied.

The Department will not be bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

A. P. BRADLEY,

Secretary

Department of Railways and Canals, Ottawa, 7th February, 1889.

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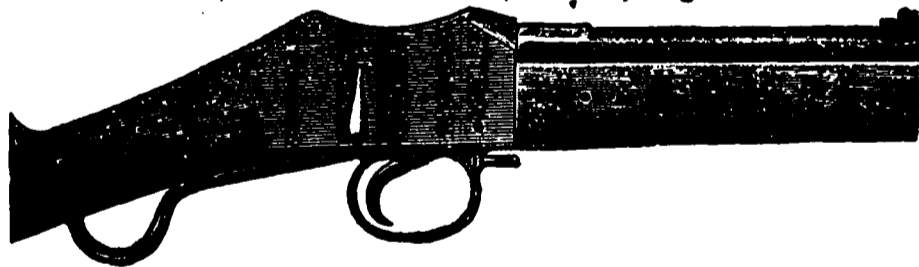
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