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THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE, P. O. Box 316, Ottawa, Ont.

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NEW MILITARY BOOKS.

Topics of the Week.

A bill introduced by Mr. Mulock in the House of Commons this week, provides that for the future Canadian officers shall be eligible for the command of the militia, a post now reserved by law for officers of the Imperial Army. The bill being simply permissive, the first reading was not opposed, Sir Adolphe Caron stating that its subject would receive the attention of the Government during the recess. It is not probable, as the session is so near its close, that the bill will be pressed further. It is not to be expected, whatever may become of the bill, that Canada will be in any hurry to depart from the present advantageous system of securing every five years, for the command of her militia, an officer fresh from that great centre of military knowledge and experience, the British Army.

The Royal Military College Board of Visitors has been practically dead for a great many years, and now it is announced that no revival may be expected. Questioned by Col. Denison in the Commons the other day, Sir Adolphe Caron said that the last inspection made was on the 18th October, 1881. It has not been deemed necessary since to continue the inspections. Everything connected with the college passes through the hands of the President of the Board, who is also the Adjutant-General of the forces; and the General Officer Commanding also makes periodical and minute examinations of the Royal Military College.

Bremner's Furs.

Since the commencement of the agitation relative to Charles Bremner's claim for compensation for furs lost during the North-West Rebellion, there has been very widespread misrepresentation of General Middleton's part in the affair, and since the parliamentary committee appointed to investigate the matter has reported, which it did last week, the unwarranted abuse of the General has been resumed with fresh impetus. We say unwarranted, because this report, unanimously agreed to by the committee, completely exonerates General Middleton from the charge of intentional wrongdoing, finding as the fact that his action was

prompted by "an unfortunate misconception of his powers," though proceeding to state their opinion that "the appropriation of any portion of the property under such circumstances by General Middleton to his own use and to that of the members of his staff was highly improper." This finding will no doubt be very useful as a guide for officers charged in the future with the suppression of such disorders as occasioned the trip of General Middleton to the North-West. But as that officer had had some little experience of warfare before coming to Canada, and was tolerably familiar with the method followed in disposing of property of their friends the enemy confiscated by a victorious army, the impropriety of which the committee treat will scarcely weigh heavily on his conscience. It does not appear that the plaintiff Bremner would have been much better off had the General refrained from ordering a few small packages to be put up as mementoes of the interesting occasion; for the furs thus appropriated are said to have amounted to only one-eighth of the total deposited by Bremner at Battleford, and the other seven-eighths appear to have since vanished without leaving a trace behind. Those who are disposed to censure the General for not having adhered to the letter of the law should remember the circumstances of the case; that he was operating in a country where all but military law was suspended for the time being, and that the haste with which he had to move his force from place to place, through hundreds of miles of country inhabited only by hostile breeds and Indians, did not permit of as calm reflection upon nice points of law as might be indulged in by folk comfortably at home in old Canada years after the North-West disturbance had been quelled. Nothing has come to light to throw discredit upon General Middleton's operations from a military standpoint; and we are much mistaken if any considerable number of thoughtful civilians will conclude from the evidence presented that the General was in the least blameworthy.

The following were the findings of the committee presented to the House of Commons, by which body they have not yet been considered or acted upon:

1. That during the North-West Rebellion of 1885 and on the day of the surrender of the Indian Chief Poundmaker, who had been in arms against the Government of Canada, a number of half-breeds came into Battleford, among whom was Charles Bremner, a half-breed trader and farmer, a resident of Bresaylor, twenty-two miles from Battleford, having in his possession a large quantity of valuable furs.

2. General Middleton being in command of the Canadian forces engaged in the suppression of the rebellion and being in Battleford, and having information that these half-breeds had come in from Poundmaker's camp and that the furs were being carried away, gave orders that they should be put in charge of the Dominion Mounted Police, and they were accordingly placed in the Police Barracks at Battleford for safe keeping.

3. Some weeks later, while General Middleton was at Fort Pitt, Mr. Hayter Reed (a member of his staff), who had then returned from Battleford, called attention to the furs, and reminded General Middleton that the person from whom they had been taken was said to be a rebel. Thereupon, after consultation with Mr. Reed and Mr. Bedson (another member of his staff), General Middleton assumed to confiscate the furs.

4. At the time of the confiscation General Middleton directed Mr. Reed to send an order in writing to the Police officer in Battleford who had charge of the furs. The exact wording of this order cannot be clearly established as it was destroyed a few days after it was written. But it is proved to have been of the following tenor:

That General Middleton had confiscated the furs, and had ordered that two packages of them should be put up for himself, one for Mr. Hayter Reed, one for Mr. Bedson, and one for another member of his staff, selecting the best; and that receipts should be taken for, or a memorandum made of the furs thus distributed.

5. Packages were put up in conformity with this order—two for General Middleton, one for Mr. Hayter Reed and one for Mr. Bedson—the furs put up were in quantity about one-eighth of the whole, but of much larger proportionate value.

6. It has been proved before your committee that the furs put up for General Middleton and Mr. Bedson were placed on board the steamer which conveyed General Middleton and Mr. Bedson, from Battleford to Winnipeg. But it would appear that Mr. Bedson, who had promised to give a receipt for the furs, refused to do so, alleging that they had not reached Winnipeg; and the committee find that the packages of furs so shipped to General Middleton were not received by him.

7. The furs put up for Mr. Hayter Reed were forwarded to Regina and received by him there. He subsequently returned the package unopened to the Police authorities at Battleford, alleging as his reason for so doing that the propriety of the confiscation was questioned.

8. The committee consider the confiscation of the furs unwarrantable and illegal; and in his evidence General Middleton admits that he has recently become satisfied it was not legally justifiable. The committee are further of the opinion that, if the confiscation had been legal, the confiscated property rested in the Crown; and while the committee believe General Middleton acted under an unfortunate misconception as to his powers, they are of the opinion that the appropriation of any portion of the property under such circumstances by General Middleton to his own use and to that of the members of his staff was highly improper.

9. On behalf of Bremner it was stated to the committee that he is willing to accept \$4,500 inclusive of interest in compensation for his loss, and this the committee consider a fair compensation.

10. For the information of the House the committee submit herewith the minutes of the evidence taken by them in this enquiry, also the minutes of the proceedings of the committee, which, with this report, they recommend to be printed.

Infantry Training.

(United Service Gazette.)

The Adjutant-General presided at the meeting recently of the Royal United Service Institution, when an interesting paper on this subject was read by Colonel the Right Hon. J. H. A. Macdonald, C. B., commanding the Fourth Volunteer Brigade. After pointing out the completely changed conditions of modern warfare, Colonel Macdonald specified the characteristics of the modern infantry combat which call for modification of military training.

1. The change in the range and efficiency of modern fire-arms, both great and small, has added to the physical strain and fatigue of the fight.

2. The moral strain is much greater than it was formerly. It may be true that the proportion of losses in the modern fight is not so different from those of former days as might have been expected. But they are more concentrated in time, and must be suffered in many cases when there is not the possibility of that retaliation which is seen and felt to be effective, and thus stimulates the survivors.

3. There is no possibility of an advance in solid form at shoulder to shoulder. The moral effect of that time-honoured formation is completely lost, as no troops could live in it up to the point when it could be so seen as to produce a moral effect, and even if they could, no well-disciplined army, with modern arms, would be alarmed by it.

4. The long and rapid advance over the field is against the troops being in physical condition for effective fire, and makes difficult the maintenance of sufficient staying power for the final assault.

5. The tremendous rapidity and roar of modern fire renders the direct control by set words of command by the colonels of battalions—and in degree even by the captains of companies—a thing unattainable.

6. Fire discipline, that fire may be well directed, and fire control, that it may be delivered so as to speak the language of well-regulated determination, are rendered difficult from the causes already enumerated.

7. The power of rapidly rallying into order, out of the necessary or accidental confusion caused by the combat, is much more essential than formerly, as, from the very necessity of the case, the counter attack as a

power of defence must be not merely an occasional expedient, but a practical part of every well-thought-out defence disposition.

Lastly, when to all those things there is added the undoubted fact that the time available for the training of infantry is very much less than it was in old days, when the soldier enlisted for all the best years of his manhood, and when musketry was an insignificant part of his work, it is obvious that no system which availed us formerly can avail us now without great modification. Modern conditions require the highest discipline. Nothing short of it will suffice, and the highest discipline cannot be that of the obedient but unthinking mass, moving by habit only; it must be that of intelligent self-reliance of the man acting in obedient subordination to leadership.

Colonel Macdonald then touched on four of the more salient points—the command, the control of sub-units, the principle of formation, and the management of fire.

The character of the command of infantry calls for very serious consideration. The characteristic of the old system of command was that nothing should be taken out of the hand of the higher commander which it was possible for him to retain. The direct command must be as much as possible brought down to the company commander. He must in turn rely for direct leading of its fractions upon those below him, much more than has been the case in times past.

One marked defect in our present Infantry training is the absence of any group system. The only group hinted at in our Infantry Drill Book is the section of four. This is undoubtedly too small, but it is probable that as fours is the formation upon which, as the Drill Book says, "nearly all movements depend," a group consisting of a multiple of fours will be found satisfactory. Having received official permission some years ago to practise a system of attack that was to be reported on, the lecturer adopted as an addition to it a group arrangement, which can be applied to any mode of attack or other manœuvre without in any way interfering with system. It consisted of two sections of fours. In proving, the word was given when in fours deep, "Groups Tell Off," which was done by the leading men of fours calling out "First—Second," "First—Second from right to left. The order was then given, "Groups Inwards Turn," and the eight men turned inwards and were taught to observe each other. The group leader—either a corporal or an experienced man selected—shouldered arms after turning inwards, so that the men might notice him. These eight men were always together, parading, drilling, marching, sleeping, messing, going on guard, picquet, camp-scavenging, and all other duties. The result of this arrangement was the wonder of all who saw it. After a day or two these eights held together in the most efficient manner. The power of rallying after attack (conducted without previous trial, through rough ground and a thick ravined wood) was such that although the attack was never stayed longer than was necessary to fire, and the charge was delivered from the edge of the wood, without any chance of rallying in the open before it, the most perfect order was at once restored, and in ten seconds the battalion marched off with every man in his place.

For many years some of those who are anxious to adapt drill to the requirements of the time have been urging that our military mode of standing in the ranks and of march should be altered. Regularity of position and movement has hitherto obtained by bodily feeling—the use of sight being forbidden. Judgment of interval by the eye is the normal condition of all modern infantry exercise, and therefore this condition should rule, and not that which is inapplicable to service. The Germans, whose example has been used as a final fortress against the assault of the wild revolutionist, have adopted drill with intervals as their normal mode, and this with universal satisfaction from the Emperor down to the youngest recruit. Touch is now forbidden. Every man has to march free from contact with another.

The last desideratum, and certainly not the least, is training in fire, which includes two very important points—first, fire discipline, that the soldier may be so routined in the use of his weapon that he shall never fail to use it for fire coolly, collectedly, intelligently, and in accordance with the rules which he has been taught for accurate practice; and, second, fire control, that the soldier may be so disciplined in the application of his shooting instruction that he shall not fire except when his immediate superior orders him to fire, shall fire at that which he is directed to fire at, shall use the mode of fire he is desired to use, and shall set the sights to the elevation which in the judgment of his superior should be used, and shall only fire independently when in doing so he is carrying out the spirit of the directions he has received.

Musketry teaches the steady man how to make effective use of his steadiness. Drill, if applied to firing, gives the steadiness which saves the skill from being dissipated and lost. Therefore, let it be the rule of the exercise ground that no body of men, small or great, shall on any occasion leave it without having acquired some additional fire discipline, by having the orders for fire rung out to them in clear tones by the commanders of the smaller units, and by their being made to go methodically

cally through those small details of loading and adjusting sights and pressing triggers upon which marksmanship depends for the application of its skill.

In conclusion, Colonel Macdonald expressed a hope that instead of laying it down, as we do in the drill book, that commanding officers "should make marked difference between parades for drill and those for field manoeuvres," we may in some future book direct that commanding officers "shall make a marked difference between parade drill and action drill, but shall practice both on the same occasion, passing frequently from the one to the other." In the words of Sir Donald Stewart, he "would like to see the soldier trained to those duties and exercises which are essential to his efficiency in the field, and in nothing else; but all these should be matters of daily concern, and combined on the same occasion, and not as now, separated and practised at different times and seasons."

DISCUSSION.

General Fielding, speaking from thirty-seven years' service, agreed with almost every word the lecturer had spoken. He contended that there was only one way of leading troops into action—that was that bodies led against the enemy should be homogeneous in their composition, and he had eagerly watched the progress which had been made during the last twenty years towards this end. There were two points upon which he would like to have heard the lecturer lay a little more stress—firstly, that the education of the soldier depended a great deal upon the education of the officer; and, secondly, that the education of the latter could not be commenced too early. He thought that officers should commence their drill education upon a different footing, and that the subject should not be looked upon as a mere mechanical puzzle that had to be learned first from a book and then upon the parade-ground. He declared that inspection ought to be more thorough and more protracted than formerly. The control of every army must to a certain extent depend upon the characteristics of the men who composed it. He trusted that England would not follow other nations in these things, but would think them out for herself.

Colonel Cardew said a great lever in raising the standard of efficiency in the Army was the inspecting officer. If this officer would only look for a higher standard he felt sure the general efficiency of the Army would be raised to a great extent. He thought that at every parade soldiers should be drilled in firing. Effective volleys depended to a large extent on the efficiency of the orders of the commander, but this could not be attained without constant practice.

Lord Wolseley said he believed there was as much intelligence in the Army and Navy of this country as in any other nation in the world. Not only had we got this, but we had far more continual practice in the art of war than any other nation. The great nation of the world to which we looked for guidance—Germany—had not fired a shot in anger for twenty years; but there had scarcely been a single year during that time in which some portion of Her Majesty's Army had not been at war. Although the engagements had been small ones, and although the enemy who had been opposed to us had not been civilized in the ordinary sense of the term, it mattered not how small the actions were, because there were many useful lessons to be learned from them. Whenever it fell to his lot to inspect any body of troops in this country, he would infinitely prefer seeing it practising at ranges on broken ground than witness a march past. He believed there was a decided opinion in the minds of the general officers now employed in the Army to make the inspection in the future a reality. The fewer movements there were in the Drill Books the better it would be for the Army. He believed that the effect of drilling men most rigidly in complicated manoeuvres was actually to dwarf the intellect in a very serious and objectionable manner. The object of all military training was to make the soldier efficient in the day of battle. The various wars in recent times ought to be studied in the most minute manner for the purpose of seeing what actually does take place in time of battle. They would thereby be able to impart to the men under their control training which would be best fitted for times of action.

Regimental and other News.

The Queen's Birthday celebration at Picton, Ont., will centre in the annual exhibition of the Prince Edward County Agricultural Society, of which Lieut.-Col. T. Bog, of the 16th Battalion, is Secretary.

Hamilton.

The Thirteenth Battalion turned out about 300 strong last Friday evening and was put through battalion drill in the Hall by Lieut.-Col. Gibson. The men looked well and executed the movements with precision. Major McLean put them through the manual and firing exercises, both being very creditably performed. Col. Gibson briefly addressed the men, expressing the pleasure it gave him to be with them again, and compli-

menting them on the great improvement they had made during the winter months, and hoped they would keep hard at drill till July 1st, when it was very likely they would take part in the Toronto Carnival. He suggested that if the turnout was large enough the regiment might be drilled by half battalions. Referring to the lecture by Col. Otter, D.A.G., he hoped every officer and non-commissioned officer would be able to attend, and also every one who aspires to be a non-commissioned officer. After parade the following orders were read:—

HEADQUARTERS 13TH BATT., A. M.

HAMILTON, April 25th, 1890.

17. The battalion will parade for Divine service on Sunday morning, April 27th, at 10 o'clock.

18. The commanding officer has been pleased to make the following promotions, provisionally, from this date: A Co.—To be sergeant, Corp. Horace Harvey; to be corporals, Pte. John Clark and Pte. Wesley Haines. E. Co.—To be colour-sergeant, Sergt. Edwin Skedden, dating from Nov. 18th, 1889; to be sergeants, Corp. Arthur Hill and Acting Corp. John Carse; to be corporal, Pte. John Mitchell.

19. The next battalion parade after Sunday's parade will be on Friday evening, May 9th, at 7.45.

20. The deputy adjutant-general will deliver a lecture to the officers and non-commissioned officers of the battalion at the Drill Hall next Wednesday evening, April 30th, at 8 o'clock.

By order, J. J. STUART,
Captain and Adjutant.

It is expected that the District Camp will be opened at Niagara on June 17th. It is likely some of the Thirteenth officers will be attached to corps going under canvas.

Helmets were served out after drill for church parade on Sunday. The Hamilton Field Battery will also turn out.

The officers intended "D" Company to go to Niagara Falls on the 24th May, but are having some trouble in arranging a reasonable rate with the railway company.

H. A. M.

Toronto.

The officer commanding the Queen's Own has approved of a marching boot submitted by Bugle-Major Swift, and hopes that officers, non-coms. and men will provide themselves with a pair as soon as possible.

QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES.

The regular weekly parade of the regiment was held on Wednesday evening, the 23rd ult., under command of Lieut.-Col. Hamilton, the regiment marched to Wellington street where, after some battalion exercises, the various companies were marched off for company drill.

On their return to the shed Col. Hamilton addressed the regiment, and particularly requested the men to be punctual at all parades and give the closest attention to their work, so as to enable him to take with him to Peterborough, for such will be the place where they will celebrate the 24th of May, one of the best regiments that ever left the city. He stated that at Peterborough the 57th and Lieut.-Col. Rogers' Cavalry would meet them, as well as detachments of the far-famed Midlanders.

It was altogether likely that the regiment would be called on to welcome the Duke of Connaught on his arrival in the city, and the Colonel, referring to the fact of the Duke serving with the Rifle Brigade in Canada, hoped that the Queen's Own would demonstrate to him that there was a rifle regiment out here well worthy of his notice.

The regiment will parade on Friday evening, the 23rd May, and march via Yonge street to North Toronto station, where a C.P.R. train will be waiting to convey them to Peterborough. It is the intention to leave in such time as to ensure arriving at Peterborough in time to receive an address from the townspeople there.

The following were contained in the orders of the evening: "Supernumerary Sergts. J. H. Sutherland and W. R. Pringle are hereby struck off the supernumerary list of sergeants. Col.-Sergt. J. H. Domelle and Sergts. J. Sanson and F. G. Mingay are hereby placed on the supernumerary list of sergeants. Helmets will be worn at all full dress parades of the regiment until further orders. The regiment will parade for divine service on Sunday next, 27th inst., at 2.30 p.m., to St. Peter's Church, Carlton street."

The regimental entertainment, which takes place on the 12th May next, will be under the kind patronage of Lieut. Gen. Sir Frederick and Lady Middleton, Lieut.-Col. Otter, D.A.G., and Mrs. Otter. The officer commanding hopes that all ranks will use their best endeavours to make the affair a success.

The regiment paraded on Sunday, the 27th inst., 505 strong, and under command of Lieut.-Col. Hamilton, marched via Jarvis and Carlton to St. Peter's Church, where a very hearty service was conducted by Rev. Provost Boddy and Rev. Cecil Owen, B.A. The seating capacity of the church was taxed to its utmost, and few, if any, civilians found their way inside the sacred edifice. The service opened with the hymn "Brightly Gleams Our Banner," followed by a shortened form of the Church of England service. Rev. Cecil Owen, B.A., preached from the text "Young man, I say unto thee, arise," (Luke 7, 14,) and in an earnest exhortation pleaded with the men to look about them and question

themselves whether the heartiness with which they entered into the service that afternoon was real or a profanation. His pleasing discourse was listened to with rapt attention by all. A pleasing anthem, "Give to us peace in our time, O Lord," followed by the hymn "Hark, Hark, My Soul," brought the service to a close.

The regiment returned to the shed via Church and King. Old Probs was evidently in good humour, and favoured the "boys in green" with weather quite a contrast to what he had been giving during the past two days. Sixty-seven recruits were sworn in and held their initial parade on this occasion.

Montreal.

The Victoria Rifles had a very successful at home at their armoury on Saturday afternoon, 19th ult. During the afternoon Mr. Justice Davidson, a former commanding officer, announced that it was intended shortly to hold another bazaar in aid of the funds, there being a debt of \$15,000 on the building which it was desirable to reduce. The Vics desire also to add a machine-gun and signalling instruments to their equipment. The last bazaar netted \$4,500, so heartily did the lady friends of the corps apply themselves to the work.

The High School Cadets have issued invitations for a grand military and calisthenic exhibition, under the patronage of the Governor-General and the Lady Stanley of Preston, to be held in the Victoria Rink on the 13th May.

The Canadian Pacific has arranged for a special train to leave Windsor street every Saturday afternoon at 1.50, during the shooting season, to take the riflemen to the ranges at Cote St. Luc.

Staff-Sergeant Wilson, of the Garrison Artillery, has been presented with a beautiful sword and two sword-belts by the non-commissioned officers and men of the battalion.

Examinations for non-commissioned officers in the Montreal Garrison Artillery have been held by Lt.-Col. Turnbull, Major Cole and Lieut. Reid. The following are the results:—No. 2 Battery—To be Sergeants—Corporal Beatty, Corporal Pool and Bombardier Sage; to be Corporals—Gunner Lemoureau, Gunner Nicholls and Gunner W. Beck. No. 4 Battery—To be Sergeants—Gunners Clarke, Laird, and U. Finlayson. To be Corporals—Gunners Sykes, Smith and Jones. To be Bombardiers—Church and Allan.

THE PRINCE OF WALES RIFLES.

The presentation of a tribute to the wife of the former commanding officer was the feature of the regular parade of the Prince of Wales Rifles last week. Amongst the friends gathered for the occasion were Judges Tait and Davidson, Bishops Bond and Sullivan, Very Rev. Dean Carmichael, Ven. Archdeacon Evans, Lt.-Cols. Mattice, Massey, Caverhill and Turnbull, Major Bond, Capt. Williams, of the Cobourg Cavalry, Lieut. J. S. Ibbotson, Messrs. R. W. Elmenhurst, W. D. Light-hall, J. R. Barclay, J. D. Campbell, Dr. Wilson and many lady friends of the battalion. Lieut.-Col. Butler in making the presentation said the name of Mrs. Bond was engraved on the hearts of the members of the P. W. R. The presentation was made in a double capacity. The regiment could not realize that Col. Bond was no longer at its head. He spoke of the great assistance he had received since taking the command, from Lieut.-Col. Bond, who had helped him out of many difficulties. He said that the officers, non-commissioned officers and men desired to present Mrs. Bond with a piano (a handsome Chickering) which on a silver plate bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Mrs. Bond by the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the First Prince of Wales Regiment, in token of their esteem and of their appreciation of the many services rendered by her to the corps; and also of their respect and affection for her husband, Lieut.-Col. Bond, who was a member of the regiment for over thirty years and for twenty years in command."

Lieut.-Col. Bond, in reply, said that through the many years Mrs. Bond's interest in the regiment had never flagged, and she had done her utmost to keep the regiment in the foremost rank. He could not find words to express his gratitude, which was shared by Mrs. Bond and their family. He wished the old regiment all prosperity. Three cheers were then given very lustily for Mrs. Bond.

Bishop Bond spoke of the many trials which the regiment had come through, of which he was chaplain. The regiment had never been without a Bond for thirty years, and he trusted that the rising generation would keep it up. Bishop Sullivan also spoke of the deep interest he had in the regiment, and hoped that the character which guided it in the past would be its guiding star in the future. Dean Carmichael delivered a very humorous address, principally in his capacity as Junior Chaplain.

Quebec.

The old Canadian Capital is quite *en militaire* just now. The Queen's Own Canadian Hussars, two batteries of Garrison Artillery, the 8th Royal

Rifles, and the 9th Voltigeurs de Quebec being engaged in putting in their annual drill.

On Sunday the 20th, detachments from the Cavalry School Corps and B Battery, R.C.A., the Queen's Own Canadian Hussars, two Garrison batteries (Major Roy's and Capt. Morgan's) paraded to St. Patrick's Church, and on the 27th the same corps, with the exception of the Garrison Artillery, marched to the Anglican Cathedral. On both occasions the musters of the volunteer corps were good, and with the three regimental bands, those of the Q.O.C.H., B Battery R.C.A., and 8th Royal Rifles, made a very creditable appearance.

These parades have been arranged by each corps independently, and the brigading of the different musters has, therefore, been more or less of an impromptu character. It is hoped and expected, however, that a general brigade parade will be arranged for during this month, under the command of our popular D.A.G. Lieut.-Col. T. J. Duchesnay, who is ever ready to do his "possible" for the corps under his command.

The 8th have suffered a serious loss in the retirement of Capt. and Adjutant Ernest F. Würtele, R.M.C. The vacancy will be temporarily filled by Capt. Montizambert, from D. Co.

Halifax.

By the resignation of Lieut.-Col. Mackintosh, which took place a few days ago, the 63rd Batt. Halifax Rifles loses a very efficient commanding officer, and the active force a zealous and painstaking soldier. For the past twenty-eight years this gentleman has taken a prominent part in the organization from which he has just retired, he having joined the "Scottish Volunteer Rifle Company" in 1862 as a private. Two years later (in July 1864) his zeal and attention were rewarded by promotion to the rank of corporal, and in 1866 he was made sergeant. After serving as a non-com. officer for six years, he received his first commission as ensign in February, 1870, and in the year following, the "Scottish" having formed a second company, Lieut. Mackintosh was placed in command of it. In August 1875 he received his majority, and in 1879 was promoted to the position he has just vacated.

During the eleven years that Colonel Mackintosh has held command of the 63rd, very many changes and some exciting incidents in the history of the regiment have occurred. The several calls for duty made on the regiment have always been promptly responded to, and that the commanding officer deserves a large share of the credit, no one who has had any experience in military matters will deny. The Lingan riots, in 1883, and the North-West rebellion of 1885, were two occasions on which the regiment, while under Colonel Mackintosh's command, mustered their quotas with promptness.

The record of Colonel Mackintosh's services for the past twenty-eight years is the history of the regiment, and his retiring will be viewed with regret by many, particularly by the few remaining comrades who joined the regiment in the old "Volunteer" days and have served with him through all the trials and changes that have taken place during that time. After being actively connected with any organization or society for such a number of years, it must be very difficult to cut adrift from old duties and associations, particularly in the case of Colonel Mackintosh, who is still in middle life and of active business habits. After eleven years of command, during which the regiment has always been considered first-class, and the commanding officer always popular with both officers and men, he leaves with the good wishes of all ranks.

Taking, as he always has, an active interest in public matters, he will now have more time to spare for his civic duties, he being for the second time one of the aldermen for Ward One, and an energetic member of the city Board of Works.

Colonel Walsh, who succeeds to the command, is also one of the old "Volunteer" officers, having been a member of the regiment since its formation. He served in the North-West as Major of the Halifax Provisional Battalion, and was in command of the detachment stationed at Saskatchewan Landing. From his thorough knowledge of the regiment and his long experience as second in command, together with the practical training acquired while on active service, the 63rd no doubt under Colonel Walsh will retain the standing it has always held in the active force.

E.

The Rifle.

The annual meeting of the Huron Rifle Association, of Clinton, Ont., for the election of officers for the ensuing year, was held at the Commercial hotel last Friday night, with the following result: President, Capt. A. M. Todd; secretary, Lieut. H. B. Combe; treasurer, Nicholas Robson. Managing committee—Lieut. H. T. Prance, J. Johnston, J. Anderson, R. K. Logan, J. W. Riter, Wm. Grigg and E. Hovey. Practice commences on the 14th of May, and will be held every Wednesday throughout the season.

At the annual meeting of the Peterborough Rifle Association, recently held, the secretary-treasurer, Capt R. M. Dennistoun, presented the annual report, which showed the association to be in a flourishing condition. The election of officers was then proceeded with, resulting as follows:—President, Lieut.-Col. H. C. Rogers; 1st vice-president, Rev. V. Clementi; 2nd vice-president, Major Bell; secretary-treasurer, Capt. R. M. Dennistoun. Council—Messrs. D. Cameron, F. Hall and W. A. Mason. It was arranged to carry on the monthly matches this season as usual, but to have five instead of four as formerly. The first of these matches will be held on the first Thursday in May, and the others on the first Thursday of each month following. It was also decided to abandon the military match in the fall, provided the 57th Battalion holds a military match during the season.

Mr. Pringle, secretary of the Canadian Military Rifle League, is in town, and had an interview with Mr. James, supt. Anglo-American Telegraph and Cable Co., who kindly consented to place the P. E. I. riflemen on the same footing as those of the other provinces, viz., to charge 50 cents per team per match, that is, each team sends its own scores and receives those of all the other competing battalions for that rate.—*Charlottetown Examiner, 19th April.*

THE MILITARY RIFLE LEAGUE.

Up to the 29th of April, these entries had been received by the Secretary of the League. They are given in the order in which the entries came in:—

Halifax Garrison Artillery.	P. E. I. Garrison Artillery, Charlottetown.
13th Battalion, Hamilton.	96th Battalion, Port Arthur.
90th Battalion, Winnipeg.	63rd Battalion, Halifax.
F Co., North-West Mounted Police,	Saskatchewan Rifle Ass'n, Prince Albert.
Prince Albert.	Queen's Own Rifles, Toronto (2 teams).
21st Battalion, Leamington, Ont.	10th Royal Grenadiers, Toronto (2 teams).
82nd Battalion, Charlottetown.	Governor-General's Foot Guards, Ottawa.
B Co., Infantry School Corps, St. John's, Q.	8th Royal Rifles, Quebec.
53rd Battalion, Sherbrooke.	3rd Victoria Rifles, Montreal (2 teams).
14th Battalion, Kingston.	54th Battalion, Melbourne, Q.
35th Battalion, Barrie.	5th Royal Scots, Montreal (2 teams).
35th Battalion, Orillia.	Montreal Garrison Artillery.
65th Battalion, Montreal.	62nd Fusiliers, St. John, N. B.

It has been decided that the entries shall be left open for another week, as it is plain that the greater number of the teams intending to enter have not yet forwarded their fees, and to shut them out would detract from the interest of the competition. The secretary requests that those who forward their fees by cheque will not omit to add the bank's commission, as there is no reason why the League should pay the cost of transmission of the fees.

THE VICTORIA RIFLES.

The following was the result of the weekly rifle competitions held on the 16th and 19th April at the Victoria Rifles Armoury, Montreal:

First competition.—Special class: Lieut. Rodden, 44; Corp. McCrae, 43; Capt. Becket, 42. First class: Pte. Miller, 43; Staff-Sergt. Wilson, 37. Second class: Pte. Pithie, 36. Third class: Pte. Mills, 37; Pte. Ross, 34.

Second competition.—Special class: Lieut. Rodden, 43; Lieut. Desbarats, 42; Corp. McCrae, 37. First class: Pte. Miller, 41; Pte. Becket, 40; Sergt. Lanigan, 33. Second class: Corp. Hardle, 42; Pte. Pithie, 40. Third class: Pte. Mills, 40; Pte. Manning, 36; Pte. Lewis, 35; Sergt. Farrell, 35.

THE EIGHTH ROYALS.

The 8th held their annual rifle association meeting after parade on Friday evening, 25th inst., when the following officers were elected for the coming year: President, Major Prower; vice-president, Capt. Montzambert; secretary-treasurer, Lieut. Davidson. Committee—Col.-Sergt. Morgan, A Co.; Col.-Sergt. Goudie, B Co.; Sergt. Douglas, C Co.; Pte. Dunn, D Co.; Sergt. Dewfall, E Co.; Col.-Sergt. Ross, F Co.; and Quarter-master Sergt. Mountain, from the staff. The first monthly match was held on Saturday, 26th inst., over forty members taking part. Short Snider rifles, 20 rounds, 5 each at 100 and 200 yds. standing, 300 yds. kneeling, and 400 yds. any military position; total possible, 80 points. Lieut. Davidson scored 71, Sergt. Douglas 69, Staff-Sergt. Mountain 66, Col.-Sergt. Ross and Col.-Sergt. Goudie 65 each. The association has an unusually large membership this year, and everything looks like a successful season. A team has been entered for the League matches.

THE TWELFTH BATTALION.

A meeting composed of members of the 12th Battalion was held on Monday night in Temperance Hall, Toronto. Lieut. Elliott occupied the chair, and there were also present Major McSpadden, Capt. McSpadden, Lieuts. Ronan, Lanskil and Curran, Ptes. Graham, McVittie, Thompson, Gadsby and others. The object of the meeting was to form a rifle association in connection with the battalion in order to encourage

rifle practice. After an informal discussion, it was agreed to form such an association, to be known as the Wayling Rifle Association of the 12th Battalion. The following were elected as the officers for the year 1890-91: Staff-Sergt. Ronan, president; Pte. George Thompson, 1st vice-president; Pte. Graham, 2nd vice-president; Pte. McVittie, secretary-treasurer. Several suggestions were offered as to the rules which should govern the association. The officers were appointed a committee to draft a set of rules and by-laws and submit them to a future meeting. The association takes its name from the commander of the battalion, Lieut.-Col. Wayling.

OTTAWA RIFLE CLUB.

The second competition of the Ottawa Rifle Club was held on the Rideau range, on Saturday afternoon last, with Martini rifles, seven shots at 200, 500 and 600 yards. The day was fine and bright, with a strong wind from the left front. The competitors numbered thirty-six. The lack of practice told upon the scores, which were low:

Capt. S. M. Rogers (dessert spoon, 1st class), 88; Capt. C. F. Cox (tea spoon, 2nd class) 84; R. Stewart (dessert spoon, 3rd class), 84; T. McJanet, 83; Lieut. E. D. Sutherland (tea spoon, first class), 83; Dr. G. Hutchison, 82; J. E. Hutcheson, 81; S. Short, 80; Capt. B. H. Bell, 80; Lieut. W. A. Jamieson, 79; D. McMartin, 78; J. H. Ellis, 77; Major A. P. Sherwood, 75; Capt. E. Waldo, 75; Capt. H. H. Gray, 75; C. S. Scott, 74; G. A. Mailleue, 74; Capt. J. W. deC. O'Grady, 74; Major J. Wright, 73; T. C. Boville, 73. Capt. Cox will for the future shoot with the first class, having won the requisite number of spoons to put him out of the second.

GUARDS RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

This association had a well attended practice on Rideau range, last Saturday, when there were present thirty five members competing. These were the leading scores: Capt. Gray (tea spoon, 1st class), 75; Capt. Waldo, 75; Col.-Sergt. Mailleue, 74; Pte. Morrison, 71; Corp. Carroll, 69; Sergt. Watts, 65; Sergt. McCarthy (dessert spoon, 3rd class), 65; Pte. Mullen, 65; Pte. Elmitt, 56; Pte. Saunders (tea spoon, 3rd class) 55.

New Military Books.

Published by Wm. Clewes & Sons, Limited, 13 Charing Cross, London.

1. THE YEOMAN'S MANUAL. Containing the necessary information on the subjects of fitting belts, saddlery, &c., military riding with and without arms, salutes, &c., orders of dress and parades, &c., uniforms dress and equipment, definitions of military terms, &c., abridged and compiled from "The Cavalry Regulations," with full instructions for the drill of a troop mounted. By Capt. J. B. Delap, Royal Bucks Hussars; 4th edition pp. 52. Price one shilling. Authorized by the inspectors of auxiliary cavalry.

We heartily recommend this little handbook to the cavalry branch of the Canadian militia. It should be in the hands of every officer, n.c.o. and man, placing as it does within easy reach and at a trifling cost just the information which each cavalryman should possess, and from the comprehensive and thorough manner in which Capt. Delap has condensed the contents of the authorized cavalry manual, he is saved a vast amount of reading and studying, which, as the time of training is so short, is no small matter.

Dealing, as it does, with drill equipment and the minor details relating to cavalry work, a study of it will enable the reader to have as good a comprehension of what he will have to do as a trained soldier. Capt. Delap is evidently a master of his subject, as the points touched upon are essential, while the language of detail is plain, simple and easily understood. No better manual on cavalry work could be desired. The book is handy in size, being 3½ x 4½ in., and can readily be carried in the pocket. Commanding officers would do well to call the attention of those serving under them to the desirability of possessing a copy.

2. A RESUME OF THE TACTICAL PORTIONS CONTAINED IN PARTS VI-IX OF THE "INFANTRY DRILL, 1889." By Lieut. W. R. Clifford, the Cheshire Regt. Pp. 65. Price one shilling.

To those officers of the militia who desire to possess a knowledge of the tactical portions of the new drill book, we think from a perusal of this little manual that it will fully meet their requirements. The compiler has carefully done his work. He states so fully the scope and objects of the work in his preface that in bringing it to the attention of our readers, we cannot do better than quote his words. He says:—"This book has been written, not as a substitute for the 'Infantry Drill' but merely as an assistance to those officers who * * * having read the 'Infantry Drill' desire a somewhat briefer form of manual in which they can without difficulty, and at a glance, get hold of the pith of those tactical portions which are more fully explained in the

'Infantry Drill.' Many portions have admitted but little of condensation owing to the very excellent and important matter which they contain.

3. A SUMMARY OF THE DRILL AND WORKING OF THE THREE ARMS (cavalry, artillery and infantry). By Col. H. J. Hallows. Pp. 104. Price one shilling and sixpence.

This little manual may be considered as a companion volume to Lieut. Clifford's book. It contains extracts from the drill books of the three arms and standard works of the day, so arranged that without the trouble of wading through them all an officer may make himself so acquainted with the drill of each branch as to recognize the formation of any body of men he may see, and to convey an intelligent order or command, if necessary, to branches of the service other than his own. The advantages of this knowledge cannot be denied, and when it is thus so easily placed within grasp, we think that every officer who desires to excel in his profession should avail himself of the opportunity thus afforded by reading and studying Col. Hallows' book. The work has been twice revised in consequence of the alterations in the infantry drill.

4. EXERCISES FOR LIGHT DUMB BELLS, arranged for schools and athletic clubs. By Richard Plunkett, Sergt. Instructor of Fencing and Gymnastics, Royal Scots Greys; 3rd edition; pp. 24. Illustrated. Price 6d. in paper wrappers; cloth limp 9d.

This little handbook, which is fully illustrated, is well adapted for classes in schools and athletic clubs, teaching, as it does, the use of light dumb bells. The bells are made from small blocks of wood, about ten inches long, with a grip for the hand in the centre. The ends can be made round or square as desired, and at a trifling expense. The exercises are particularly adapted to classes of young, growing children, as the exercises are less severe than with heavier clubs or bells. The system advocated by Sergt. Instructor Plunkett has been in use for fourteen years, and has been adopted by numerous athletic clubs, who found the use of light bells gave them quickness and power, instead of wasting muscular strength, as in using heavy bells. The little book is well illustrated with plates, and besides contains the music to which the exercises can be performed. We can recommend the book to gymnastic instructors in our public schools, colleges and athletic clubs.

5. PHYSICAL DRILL WITH AND WITHOUT ARMS, AND THE NEW BAYONET EXERCISE with illustrations, by Lt.-Col. G. M. Fox, late 1st Batt. "The Black Watch"; pp. 46, and 21 plates; dedicated by permission to His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief. Price one shilling.

Col. Fox's book has been written in anticipation of the new rifle exercises and the detail of these exercises as worked out at Aldershot and approved for use by H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, together with the new bayonet exercise, which Col. Fox submitted for the approval of H.R.H. and which was also authorized by him. The book should be in the hands of all regimental instructors and officers, and contains full details for all the movements, with illustrations of the physical drill with arms and also the bayonet exercise. We should be glad to see this drill made a feature in future of the militia brigade camps.

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DATES OF COMPETITIONS—Saturday, 17th and 31st May, 14th and 28th June, 12th and 26th July, and 9th August.

ENTRIES CLOSE 30th APRIL.

W. R. PRINGLE, Secretary.

N.B.—The time for closing entries has been extended for one week, to 7th May.

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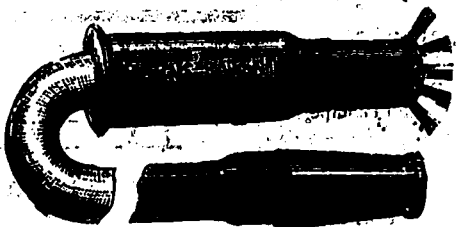
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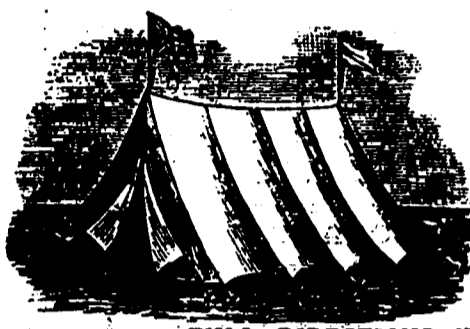
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