

# The Canadian Militia Gazette

THE POPULAR ORGAN OF THE ACTIVE FORCE OF THE DOMINION.

(Adopted as their official paper, by the Dominion Artillery Association, the Ontario Artillery Association, the Canadian Military Rifle League, and the Royal Military College Club.)

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## FIXTURES.

National Rifle Assn. meeting opens (Bisley).....	July 13
C. M. R. League shoots.....	May 16, 30, July 11, 25, August 8
Inter-City Telegraphic Match.....	June 13
N. W. R. League shoots.....	May 16, 30, June 13, 22, July 11, 25, [Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 19]

## NOTE AND COMMENT.

In consequence of the necessary postponement of the annual brigade camps, several field batteries have applied for and received permission to go into camp near local headquarters for the performance of their annual drill. The applications granted, and the dates fixed, are as follows:—1st Brigade, Guelph, 16th to 27th June; London Battery, 19th to 30th June; Winnipeg Battery, 20th June to 1st July; Ottawa and Gananoque, 23rd June to 4th July. The Welland Canal Battery has also made application, but no date has yet been fixed. In connection with these drills we would call attention to the regulations for Range Finding practice published in this issue, which provide for a considerable extension of the work of last year.

Those interested in the Royal School of Mounted Infantry at Winnipeg will learn with considerable satisfaction that a thorough re-organization of the staff is in progress,

with a view to putting an end to the irregularities so constantly reported. Investigation into the condition of the school has been made on more than one occasion, but it was found difficult to exactly locate the cause of trouble, which perhaps arose from an adverse combination rather than from any single cause. The recent death of the commandant, Lt.-Col. J. B. Taylor, afforded an unexpected opportunity which has been taken advantage of as above indicated. The next in command, Major Buchan, has been transferred to the Infantry School at Fredericton to replace Major Gordon, temporarily absent on brigade staff duty. Capt. Oswald was some time ago also removed to Fredericton; Lieut. Bremner has resigned. The first step toward filling the vacancies thus made at Winnipeg has been the transfer of Capt. Heward from the Royal School of Cavalry at Quebec, who will assume the command.

THE first Provincial Rifle Association programme for this season to come to hand is that of Nova Scotia, with which we have been favoured by Major B. A. Weston, the Secretary. The matches and prize list are much the same as last year. A special effort made by this association to induce young shots to come forward is made the subject of a circular letter accompanying the programme, and which reads as follows:—

“I have to call your attention to the fact that at the Annual Meeting of the Provincial Rifle Association, it was resolved to give to each regiment in the Province, an affiliation membership of 15, on payment of the sum of \$10.00 to this Association. For this sum the 15 members will have the privilege of shooting in all the matches of the Association, including the Nursery and a Special Affiliated Match to be arranged before the Annual Prize Meeting. The 15 are to be *bona fide* members of the regiment affiliated, and *who have never won a prize at any competition of the Provincial Rifle Association*. Under this liberal offer it is hoped that 15 new members will attend the next matches from your regiment. I have to request you to bring this matter to the attention of the members of your regiment and company, and to correspond with me on the subject as soon as possible.”

THE simultaneous match held on the 13th inst., under the auspices of the Canadian Military Rifle League, between teams of 15 men each representing the several cities and towns of the Dominion, was well contested and excited general interest. Bowmanville won with the total of 1270 points, being an average of 84½ points per man. The other totals, as reported by telegraph, were: Toronto 1253, Ottawa 1243, Halifax 1240, Windsor Mills 1218, Montreal 1191, Hamilton 1177, St. John 1174, Kingston 1163, Quebec 1116, Fredericton 974, Amherst 926. Up to the date

of publication only a few of the score sheets had been received, consequent, no doubt, on the neglect of the team captains to forward them promptly as desired, and we have therefore to defer giving the detailed scores. The match was with Martini rifles, at Queen's ranges. It does not count in the regular series of the League.

THE twentieth team sent to represent Canada at the National Rifle Association meetings at Wimbledon and Bisley, will start next week on the Sarnia. There have been only four refusals of places on this occasion, and the team will be made up as follows:

	Previously with Team.
Capt. W. P. Milligan, D.F.B.....	Never
Capt. G. A. McMicking, 44th Bn.....	1888
Staff-Sergt. J. Ogg, 1st B.F.A. ....	1879-80-81-87-89-90
Staff-Sergt. T. Mitchell, 10th R.G.....	1874-77-79-81-83-89
Sergt. C. M. Hall, 79th Bn.....	1890
Sergt. J. E. Horsey, 45th Bn.....	1889-90
Pte. J. H. Ellis, G.G.F.G.....	Never
Pte. J. Kambery, 5th R.S.....	1887
Lieut. J. H. Knifton, Q.O.R.....	Never
Lieut. J. L. McAvity, 62nd Fus.....	Never
Staff-Sergt. R. McVittie, 10th R.G.....	1889
Pte. C. A. Windatt, 45th Bn.....	1890
Corp. R. Binmore, 3rd Vics.....	Never
Pte. J. A. Armstrong, G.G.F.G.....	1884-86-89
Col.-Sergt. M. B. Henderson, 62nd Bn.....	1890
Sergt. H. Marris, 13th Bn.....	1879-82-87-90
Lieut. A. D. Cartwright, 47th Bn.....	1887
Pte. W. Hilton, 47th Bn.....	1885
Pte. D. D. Beach, 45th Bn.....	Never
Lieut. W. H. Davidson, 8th R.R.....	Never

The team is a strong one, not only in "old reliables," but having exceptionally promising new material, and ought to make a good record.

In last issue we published a complimentary notice of the officer commanding this year's Bisley team, taken from a Halifax paper. This week we have pleasure in reproducing the following from the *Montreal Gazette*, respecting the second in command: "The adjutant, Major William M. Blaiklock, is not only well known to Montrealers, but throughout the Dominion, by shooting men especially, who are always willing to welcome him either as a competitor or as a looker on. Major Blaiklock first joined the Canadian Militia in 1875 as an ensign in the Sixth Fusiliers, was made captain in 1876, and again promoted, to be major in 1881. In October, 1885, he was transferred to the Royal Scots at his own request, and now has command of "B" company. Major Blaiklock comes of a military family. His grandfather was an officer in the Royal Engineers, dying at Quebec while in charge of the fortifications and ordnance. His father and uncles served through the rebellion of 1837 and 38, and were at the fight at St. Eustache. Major Blaiklock has had five brothers who have served their time as officers, non-commissioned officers and privates in the Victoria Rifles. He has been secretary of the Province of Quebec Rifle association since 1883. He was captain of the 6th Fusiliers Rifle team when in that corps. He has been for a number of years captain of the Provincial eight at the London merchants match at Ottawa."

## QUERIES AND REPLIES.

### ARE OUR MILITIA ROYAL?

Q. Please answer the following:—(1) Is not the whole force of the Active Militia of Canada entitled to the honour of being known as "Royal"; when did they gain the distinction, and is not that the reason the facings of Infantry in this country are "Royal." If the Militia have not the distinction now, did they ever have it? (2) What length of service in the Active Militia is necessary to exempt a man from jury duty?

GUNNER.

[Any one having the desired information is requested to answer.—EDITOR.]

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

[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 LEAGUE DATES.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—I notice an agitation through your valuable columns for the purpose of changing the date of one of our League matches to June, and the completion of them in July. Now, Mr. Editor, I thought I would just drop you a line to let you know that this suggestion recommends itself to us, down by the sea, as being much better than the present programme. As almost all of the corps competing are city corps, and as our camps are not to be held until later on, so that the rural corps will not now be undergoing the usual demands upon their time, I heartily agree with the member of the executive who so well presented the case last week.

I hope that the council will see their way clear to make the proposed change.

ORTHOPTIC.

## RANGE FINDING PRACTICE OF FIELD BATTERIES.

### GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR ANNUAL DRILL OF 1891.

1. Batteries which perform their drill in camp in the vicinity of which a land or water range can be obtained, will carry out the following instructional practice:—

2. RANGE FINDING BY THE BATTERY.—The entire battery will parade in drill order, with practice ammunition, as detailed for similar practice in 1890—equally distributed in the limbers—march to the practice ground, and will be halted, if possible, under cover, but at least 100 yards in rear of the firing point, and be ordered to "Prepare for action."

The target will be placed at an estimated range not less than 1,800 yards.

(a) The officer commanding, accompanied by a N. C. officer, especially selected for his aptitude in judging distance, and observation of fire, will advance and place himself on the windward flank of the selected position for action; he will then give the command (or signal) "*advance for action.*" when the battery will trot up and come into action.

(b) The officer commanding will then give the command *Battery, shell, load range, yards.* The sectional officers will direct the deflection to be given, and will be responsible that all orders given by the officer commanding are repeated, and correctly carried out.

(c) The officer commanding will then give the caution "*Slow firing from the . . . Shot,*" if over or under, he will give the order *No. gun range, yards,* adding or subtracting the full distance for the long bracket (not less than  $\frac{1}{10}$  range), if the target is included between the first and second rounds, the mean range will be taken.

or third round, and this practice will be repeated until the target is included in a bracket of not more than 50 yards by two well observed rounds. A group of three to six shell will then be fired at the mean of these two ranges, and if from  $\frac{1}{3}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  the rounds are short the range may be considered to have been found.

(e) The order will then be given "Stand fast." Section, with shrapnel, fuze, load," slow fire, &c. After observations of these two rounds the other section will be ordered to load, the fuze being altered if necessary. One more round of shrapnel well then be fired from each gun.

3. The attention of all ranks is specially directed to sections 8 and 9, Chap IV, Vol. II., F.A. Drill, omitting "shooting at moving objects," and "Replacement of ammunition," &c.

4. The officer commanding is not limited to the employment of Nos. 1 as layers, the two best marksmen in each sub-division should be generally selected for this purpose, and should fall in as Nos. 7 and 8.

5. The range party will keep a careful record of each round, judging by observation only. It is desirable, if possible, to signal them before shrapnel are fired.

The range record will be read out to the whole battery after practice is over, and the general results commented upon by the officer commanding and the inspecting officer. Sectional officers should keep a record of each round, showing range, deflection, and result, both as observed from the battery and by the range party.

6. It is most important to bear in mind that the instructional value of the above practice depends in a great measure upon its being carried out with every precaution supposed to be necessary in actual service; in consequence the greatest exactitude and celerity are indispensable in every movement.

No competition whatever will be sanctioned.

D. T. IRWIN, Lt.-Col.,

*Insp. Artillery.*

29th May, 1891

**MARITIME INTER-PROVINCIAL MATCH.**

The sixth inter-provincial rifle match was shot on the 11th inst. on the Bedford range and resulted in victory for Nova Scotia. Five years ago the matches were agreed upon by the councils of the rifle associations of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and P. E. Island. The conditions of the match are similar to those for the Kolapore cup. Martini-Henry rifles are used, and the ranges are 200, 500 and 600 yards, 7 shots at each, with two sighting shots at the option of each competitor. The teams compete for a trophy, on which is engraved each year the name of the winning team, and remains during the year in the possession of the winning association. Each member of the winning team also receives a badge. The trophy was manufactured in London from designs by Elkington. The cup is of the design of an old fashioned silver gilt bowl, with ebony base; to this is attached four silver shields, three bearing the coats of arms of each province, and the fourth is for the names of the winning teams. The Nova Scotia team is selected by a series of competitions, the eight highest securing places. In New Brunswick back records are taken—the shooting at the previous Provincial and Dominion competitions for part of the team, the remaining being chosen by the executive. This year's match makes the honours equal between the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick—three victories to each. The scores of the five previous matches were:

1886—MONCTON.

New Brunswick	234	243	225—701
Nova Scotia	239	224	200—693

1887—CHARLOTTETOWN.

Nova Scotia	229	226	190—655
P. E. Island	231	194	172—597
New Brunswick	229	190	152—571

1888—HALIFAX.

New Brunswick	235	223	203—661
Nova Scotia	239	206	201—646
P. E. Island	224	208	184—616

1889—ST. JOHN.

Nova Scotia	230	235	193—658
New Brunswick	223	206	164—593
P. E. Island	197	161	155—588

1890—CHARLOTTETOWN.

New Brunswick	227	198	192—617
P. E. Island	222	207	168—597
Nova Scotia	205	202	180—587

The riflemen got to work about 10.30 o'clock, at 200 yds., and when the first pair had fired Nova Scotia led by two points. The second pair fired and Nova Scotia was still leading by one point. The third pair changed this into a lead of nine points for New Brunswick, and when the pairs finished at 200 yards the standing was:

New Brunswick	229 points.
Nova Scotia	221 "
P. E. Island	208 "

At 500 yards the wind was very tricky and the New Brunswick men gained a still further lead on the first pair, increasing it to seventeen points, which was still further advanced to twenty-two points when the second pair had finished. When the third pair had concluded the lead had come down to eighteen points, and when all had fired the teams stood:

New Brunswick	452 points.
Nova Scotia	439 "
P. E. Island	438 "

Luck came on after this range and the match was still anybody's. When the first pairs fired at 600 yards it was P. E. Island that led—by six points. The second pairs changed this for a lead to Nova Scotia of one point, a position maintained to the end, and Nova Scotia stood seventeen points ahead, thus winning the trophy for the third time.

From the scores which are given below in detail, it will be noticed that Captain Bishop made the magnificent score of 97 points, out of the possible 105, winding up his work with 34 out of 35 at 600 yards.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Captain Bishop, 63rd	33	30	34—97
Sergeant-Major Case, H. G. A	23	31	33—87
Gunner McEachran, H. G. A	27	25	30—82
Captain Anderson, H. G. A	30	26	26—82
Lieutenant Stevens, 66th	27	27	24—78
Private Wilson, 63rd	25	29	23—77
Captain Maxwell, H. G. A	29	25	21—75
Lieutenant Flowers	27	25	22—74
Total	221	218	213 652

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Captain Hartt, St. John Rifles	31	30	26—87
Captain McRobbie, 8th Cavalry	28	29	29—86
Private Burns, 62nd	29	29	28—86
Lieutenant McAvity, 62nd	28	24	28—80
Sergeant Henderson, 62nd	26	26	27—79
Lieutenant Smith, St. John Rifles	30	27	21—78
Lieutenant Langstroth, 8th Cavalry	29	32	9—70
Lieutenant Perkins, 71st	28	25	16—69
Total	229	223	184 635

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Sergeant Longworth, 82nd	29	32	31—92
Captain Weeks, Engineers	28	31	27—86
Sergeant Connolly, P. E. I. Gar. Artillery	24	30	28—82
Sergeant Davison, Engineers	30	21	26—77
Sergeant Anderson, Engineers	24	30	23—77
Corporal Hooper, 82nd	21	29	25—75
Captain Crockett, 82nd	25	29	19—73
Captain Davison, P. E. I. Gar. Artillery	26	29	13—68
Total	207	231	192 630

**THE NORTH-WEST LEAGUE.**

The second competition of the above league took place on the 30th ultimo. The weather throughout Manitoba was most unfavourable for good shooting, but in the Territories, however, the competitors appear to have had at least fair conditions—as the results below will show. Battleford has a strong lead at present with Edmonton a good second. The “Duck Lake” Rifle Association have entered a team, and will, for the first time, take part in the competition on the 13th inst. The ranges on the 30th were 200, 500 and 600 yards :—

	1st Match.	2nd Match.	Total
Battleford Rifle Association.....	365	350	715
Edmonton Rifle Association.....	364	346	710
95th Battalion, Portage la Prairie.....	347	324	671
N. W. Mounted Police, Prince Albert..	346	324	670
Saskatchewan Association—P. Albert..	368	297	665
Winnipeg Rifle Range Co.....	322	332	654
Assiniboia Rifle Association, Regina...	329	323	652
Alberta Provincial Association, Calgary.	364	284	648
Manitoba Rifle Association, Winnipeg..	327	320	647
F Co., 90th Battalion, Winnipeg.....	324	300	624
A Co., 95th Battalion, Brandon.....	337	262	599
Moosomin Rifle Association.....	301	262	563

**TWENTY MEN TEAMS.**

The regulations for the C.M.R.L. this year provide a prize list for the total aggregate of twenty men from any corps entering two teams, and while the principal interest no doubt centres around the standing of the single teams, it is no less important to watch the positions occupied by the corps represented by the twenty men, especially as the feeling among some members of the league favours the increasing of teams to that number. The following is the standing of the corps thus far :—

	1st Team.	2nd Team.	Total.
45th Battalion .....	1565	1512	3077
13th Battalion, Hamilton.....	1642	1424	3066
43rd Battalion, Ottawa.....	1555	1451	3006
Halifax Garrison Artillery .....	1498	1433	2931
Queen's Own Rifles.....	1538	1369	2907
63rd Battalion, Halifax.....	1485	1290	2775
6th Fusiliers .....	1369	1269	2638
10th Royal Grenadiers.....	1379	1216	2595
G. G. F. G., Ottawa.....	1449	1136	2585
8th Battalion, Quebec.....	1370	1191	2561
Montreal Garrison Artillery.....	1426	1095	2521
57th Battalion, Peterborough.....	1390	1064	2454
Victoria Rifles, Montreal.....	1372	1062	2434
21st Battalion, Essex Centre .....	1525	824	2349
5th Royal Scots .....	1421	821	2242
B Battery, Quebec.....	1240	967	2207
53rd Battalion, Sherbrooke .....	1598	564	2162
A Battery, Kingston.....	1195	801	1996
1st Prince of Wales Regiment.....	912	333	1245

**OTTAWA RIFLE CLUB.**

The eighth weekly competition of this club took place last Saturday at Rideau range, and resulted as follows, the four scores of 88 being given in the order determined by the shoot off for the second and third spoons in the first class :—

J. Wright..... 29 34 27—90	R. N. Slater .... 30 30 24—84
E. D. Sutherland 32 30 26—88	J. G. Lyon..... 25 34 23—82
A. P. Sherwood.. 30 30 28—88	Capt. O'Grady... 26 27 27—81
T. McJanet ..... 30 32 26—88	R. J. Taylor .... 28 25 28—81
J. E. Hutcheson. 29 28 31—88	T. C. Boville.... 27 28 26—81
J. H. Ellis..... 29 30 28—87	H. Watters..... 25 29 26—80
W. A. Jamieson . 27 32 26—85	J. B. Tyrrell .... 24 31 25—80
L. G. Perkins... 29 27 28—84	H. H. Gray..... 28 31 21—80

Below are the scores of the seventh competition, held with Martini rifles on the 6th June, at 200, 500 and 600 yards :

W. A. Jamieson . 31 30 31—92	J. A. Armstrong . 28 26 27—81
T. McJanet ..... 32 29 28—89	A. P. Sherwood.. 31 29 21—81
S. M. Rogers.... 29 29 27—85	J. G. Lyon..... 29 26 24—79
J. Wright..... 31 27 26—84	T. C. Boville.... 31 27 21—79
E. D. Sutherland 30 29 25—84	C. S. Scott..... 29 25 24—78
J. H. Ellis..... 28 29 25—82	W. G. Dial..... 29 28 21—78

The spoon winners were : 1st class, W. A. Jamieson and T. McJanet ; 2nd class, W. G. Dial ; 3rd class, J. G. Lyon.

**REGIMENTAL.**

The *Mail's* “popularity contest” continues to excite great interest throughout the country, and votes are rapidly coming in for nearly every corps and officer of any prominence. On Thursday the 18th, the votes polled for the leading corps were: 13th Battalion, 34,539 ; Queen's Own Rifles, 34,112 ; 10th Royal Grenadiers, 22,652 ; 12th York Rangers, 19,011 ; and 38th Dufferin Rifles, 16,855. The officers at the head of the list were :—Major Delamere, Q.O.R., 11,113 ; Lt.-Col. Hamilton, Q.O.R., 9,911 ; Lt.-Col. Macdonald, 1st B.F.A., 9,791 ; Lt.-Col. Todd, G.G.F.G., 9,791 ; Lt.-Col. Jones, 38th Bn., 9,727.

On Saturday afternoon, the 14th, a special meeting of the Dufferin Rifles Sergeants' Mess was held, at Brantford, when the following resolution was passed and ordered to be forwarded to Lady Macdonald by the Secretary, Staff-Sergt. J. W. Fuller :—

“The Sergeant Major and Sergeants of the Dufferin Rifles of Canada, respectfully tender you their heartfelt sympathy in this your hour of sore affliction, in the death of your distinguished husband, the Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald, G.C.B., Premier of Canada. And we desire to place on record our sense of the great loss that Canada has sustained in being deprived of the guiding hand, of the one who has done so much towards the building of Canadian institutions, and our appreciation of his patriotic devotion to the interests of the beloved country, which we are sworn to defend, and his unswerving loyalty to the Queen, whom it is our duty and honour to serve. We add our quota to the tribute of the whole Empire.”

For the past month one of the topics of conversation in Montreal military circles has been the coming visit of the Montgomery Guards of Boston and Portland. That they will get a rousing reception in that city as well as in Quebec is assured. On Friday last the commanding officers of the city corps held a meeting at the St. Lawrence hall, the deputy adjutant-general, Lieut.-Col. Houghton, in the chair. A number of schemes for the entertainment of the visitors were discussed, and the following programme was drawn up, to be submitted to the city's guests for their approval. On the arrival of the party on the morning of the 23rd June they will be met at the station by the officers of the city corps and escorted to the St. Lawrence hall, which will be their headquarters during their stay, and have dinner. After dinner carriages will be in waiting and the party will be taken for a drive around the city and the Mountain park, on the way back stopping at the Shamrock Lacrosse grounds to witness a game between the Shamrocks and Cornwalls. The Portland delegation will also give an exhibition of fancy drill between games. In the evening, on condition that permission is granted from Ottawa, a grand concert by Reeves' American band, of Providence, R.I., and a fancy drill exhibition by a detachment of twenty-four men of the Portland Montgomery Guards will be given. A large platform will be erected in the Drill hall, so that everyone can see the evolutions. Besides the fancy drill, the detachment will give an exhibition of drilling by the Upton tactics, which are used by the United States army and militia. The proceeds of the entertainment will be equally divided between the Montreal General hospital and the Notre Dame hospital. This is by the wish of the visitors, who desire to do something for these institutions. On the morning of the 24th the visitors will be taken to Lachine by train for a trip down the rapids, leaving Montreal at 8 o'clock and reach the city again in time to see the pageant of St. Jean Baptiste day.

Many a once suffering consumptive has had reason to bless the valuable preparation, T. A. SLOCUM'S OXYGENIZED EMULSION of PURE COD LIVER OIL. Every druggist sells it, while the office of the company at Toronto, Ontario, can bear witness to the daily increasing demand for it.

## DISCIPLINE.

(By Colonel H. B. Hanna, late Commanding at Delhi.—From the Broad Arrow.)

"The young soldier passes two years in acquiring habits of attention, of order, of cleanliness, and of precision in all he does; and, above all things, in acquiring that respect for law and order which is the outcome of obedience to superiors, and of that practical training of the temper which obedience necessarily brings with it."  
--LORD WOLSELEY.

Discipline is at its simplest in its relation to the private soldier. He has only to learn his duties and to obey the command of his superiors. But at discipline presses more or less heavily on a man according to the spirit in which he accepts it, I propose to lay down a few rules, attention to which will lighten the young soldier's life and prepare him for the rank of a non-commissioned officer, to which he will naturally aspire. As nothing so affects a man's career in the Army as commencing well, the young soldier should endeavour at once to get into a good set; and should only associate with those who are trying to get on, and who do their best to keep out of trouble. Strict attention to drills and to the instructor's explanations will soon get him dismissed from necessary but harassing parades, and thus he will find more time at his disposal, while his duties will be less arduous. Duty is often laborious because knowledge is wanting, and in every regiment there are always some men ready and able to impart knowledge to those who need it. There is no better way for a young man than to make friends with a steady old soldier, whose advice and example will help him in learning his duties and in keeping him out of boyish scrapes. The work will at first seem hard especially in the cavalry and artillery; but by steadily persevering, difficulties will quickly vanish. Punctuality in the performance of all duties and in attendance at parades is absolutely necessary. A soldier should never answer an officer or non-commissioned officer unless an answer is requisite. If warned for duty or fatigue work, although the roster may be wrong, he should obey first and, if necessary, afterwards respectfully represent the matter. He should not be too ready with complaints against his comrades, or too zealous in coming forward as a witness except in certain serious cases, such as an assault on an officer or a non-commissioned officer; for, in the Army as at school, the tale bearer is soon despised by his superiors and hated by his equals.

Cleanliness and neatness are very important characteristics of a smart soldier. Officers judge a good deal by a man's outside; it is therefore worth every soldier's while to spend a little money and a good deal of trouble in getting his clothes to fit, and in improving his appearance generally. But it is not sufficient to be personally clean and neat; a good soldier will keep everything belonging to him in the best possible order, and will try to get his comrades to join with him in having a nice tidy mess. There is nothing more civilizing than a well-appointed table; and there is more sound discipline in a clean table-cloth than most of us may think. Men will sit down to it properly dressed; the dinner will be more appetizing; and grumbling and bad language will be less often heard. The soldier who appreciates these things will take the management of the table into his own hands, and will give some attention to the way in which the rations are cooked. A little knowledge of cooking will always be useful to him, especially when on field service.

The soldier of gentle birth should be careful to give himself no airs, and should not take advantage of his private means to pay others to do his work for him. He should learn his duties as thoroughly, and fulfil them as punctually as his comrades of a lower class. They may at first be a little harder to him than to them, but he will soon be able to groom a horse, or to clean a saddle, as one to the manner born; and the better he performs such little offices, the quicker he will be in rising to higher things. That he should hope to do so is natural and right, and he may let

the regimental authorities know his ambition, but as regards the men, he will do wisely in keeping it to himself.

There is a way in which I think Government might do much to promote discipline among private soldiers. It should give the men a free meal of tea or coffee and bread and butter in the morning, before parades and duties begin. This may seem a little thing to do, but I firmly believe that excellent results would flow from it. Many crimes of violence and insubordination occur especially in the sultry Indian mornings, when the men are turned out, after a sleepless night, with unstrung nerves, unrefreshed in mind and body. At these times it takes very little to bring a man into collision with the non-commissioned officers. Even if a man escapes this danger, he will rush off to the canteen as soon as it is open for a drink, which, taken on an empty stomach, is but too apt to render him insolent and quarrelsome. A good meal before the men quit their barracks would save many from sickness, disgrace and punishment.

Want of space prevents my dwelling, as I should like, on certain changes which have recently been introduced into the Army in respect to the education of soldiers, which seem to me to be retrograde in character. I refer especially to the abolition of compulsory attendance at Army schools. The reason given for this change—viz., that every soldier now receives a compulsory education in childhood—seems to me quite insufficient. Most boys leave school at thirteen, and the amount of knowledge they can acquire by that age is small indeed; yet the more a man knows, the better are his chances in life, and the more useful he becomes to society. In most professions a man's work obliges him to keep up his school-learning, but in the Army this is not generally the case. So far as his ordinary duties are concerned, he may, and often does, forget the little he ever learnt.

So far from freeing the soldier from the duty of improving himself, I would go further and put pressure on him to attend not only the ordinary Army schools, but also technical schools. The advantage to the Army of possessing within its own ranks a number of skilled artisans is self-evident. The advantage to the men themselves, both during their time of service and in after-life, of having a trade in their fingers, is equally clear; and, so far from fearing that the prospect of having to attend such schools would frighten away our recruits, I believe that it would bring us men of higher character and intelligence, greatly to the gain of discipline in the Army. But whether technical education is to be made compulsory in the Army or not, the general education of our soldiers should be more cared for rather than less, since, in the weighty words of Bacon, "it is beyond all controversy, learning doth make the minds of men gentle, generous, amiable, and *pliant to government*, whereas ignorance makes them churlish, thwart, and *mutinous*."

The first number of volume II of the *Outing Weekly Tennis Record* for the season of 1891, was published on June 13th, and it should be read by every devotee of the delightful game. It is the official organ and bulletin of the United States National Lawn Tennis Association, and bears the indorsement of Chas. E. Stickney, secretary of that organization. The *Weekly Record* is tastefully gotten up, and, in addition to all official records up to date, contains portraits of noted players, a department of "Club Gossip," "Current Chat," "The Referee," and editorial paragraphs from the pens of prominent tennis players, while club matters, personals, etc., lend additional interest. The principal editorials refer to the new committee and amended rules of the U. S. N. L. T. A. The "English Letter," an article on "Mixed Doubles," and "Tennis in the South," are special features of a most attractive number.



## MUSKETRY IN THE BRITISH VOLUNTEERS.

From the Broad Arrow.)

The course of musketry for the Volunteer Force is to be subjected to considerable alteration next year, and the standard of qualification, both for recruits and trained volunteers, is to be raised. The changes are desirable, since it is only by excellence as riflemen that an equivalent can be secured for shortcomings in drill. But in the effort to improve the general average of performances on the range, it must be borne in mind that such improvement cannot be effected by a stroke of the pen, even when the instrument is grasped by the very highest officials. The volunteers may be divided into what are termed "shooting men" and others. The former are usually first-rate or likely to become so, whilst the latter are generally the contrary. To demand a few extra points in each class will in no way affect the good shots, but whilst probably causing a limited number to take extra pains, it can scarcely fail to render qualification on the part of the majority a hopeless impossibility. Men are bad shots either from want of practice or sheer inability. In justice to the volunteers it must be admitted that failure of any sort is seldom due to inattention. Inability to shoot straight may be due to a variety of causes of a physical nature; but want of practice, in the case of a volunteer, is usually due to one or other of two difficulties, viz., cost of ammunition or loss of "time." A certain number of rounds issued free, or even at a reduced price, would afford a means of overcoming one of these obstacles, but the last is a more serious matter. Loss of "time" not unfrequently entails, besides the loss of wages, strained relations between employer and employed. There are a great number of volunteers who attend their evening drills with exemplary regularity, but are, on the other hand, heavily handicapped when attendance is required during the hours of labour. In fact, the whole or even half-days which they can obtain are often only the bank holidays. If such men are bad shots they can only be improved by actual practice on the range. Their regular attendance at drill ensures fair training in handling the rifle. Men who cannot shoot, because their eyesight or nerves are weak, may not be any great loss if it is found necessary to dispense with their services; but if to these are added the far greater number who fail from want of experience, the reduction of the Volunteer Force would be alarming, in proportion to the several estimates by which the citizen army is valued as a whole. Few volunteer battalions, in country districts at any rate, can afford to keep many men who fail to earn the "higher grant." In most rural corps the usual plan is to defer "clothing" a man until he has been dismissed drill. In future it will be necessary to await his succeeding to shoot his way out of the third class. In fact, a man who is unable to earn a "grant" sufficient to defray the cost of clothing him and keeping up his equipment is not worth having. It is already difficult to maintain volunteer establishments as regards men, as well as officers. The more arduous the task set for recruits to perform, the harder it will be to get them. A volunteer is only a volunteer after all, and when the shoe pinches too tightly the wearer will naturally discard it.

There are some people who are foolish enough to elevate the British Volunteer upon such a pinnacle of excellence that they consider him competent, just as he is, to meet the regular troops of any foreign power. There are also equally foolish persons who deny to the citizen Army any value whatever. Now, the long and short of it is, that in the Volunteer Force we have a number of men partly trained, and therefore more useful in an emergency than others straight from the tail of the plough. Taking them as a body, this fairly represents the situation, but about 25 per cent. are sufficiently good shots to render them very formidable when acting purely on the defensive. A great

numerical strength capable of more rapid knocking into shape than raw recruits, must be admitted as the chief practicable desideratum for the Volunteer Force. Anything approaching to perfection in drill is quite unattainable, for obvious reasons, which will also prevent, to a great extent, any universal improvement in the shooting. Drill is of importance as well as musketry, and by recognising this a way might be found for raising the regulation standard of the latter without placing undue hardship on those who are prevented by circumstances from devoting time to shooting. In many corps, "points for drill" are added to scores at musketry prize meetings. The same idea might easily be applied to classification in the annual course, one point being added for every drill attended beyond the minimum required. Such an arrangement would not only encourage those who are already regular in their attendances, but afford an inducement to many who have hitherto been slack. Volunteers in general are "keen" and the fact that a man knew he had a few drill points in hand to add to his score would not make him the less anxious to succeed without them. In determining the best shots in battalions and companies, "drill points" would not of course be allowed to count.

There is nothing so hurtful to the entire volunteer movement as the systematic manner in which so many persons persist in regarding the force from a totally wrong standpoint. Those who are ignorant of war constantly endow the citizen army with perfections which, with the best intentions, they are far from possessing, whilst the authorities, on the other hand, keep tinkering with "reforms," generally speaking incapable of realisation. It is a significant fact that ten years ago the Volunteers were a much finer body of men than now, being both physically and socially far superior to those of the present day. That drill and organization have improved during the period it would be idle to deny; but the question is whether the improvement in these matters affords compensation for loss in the others. We think not. Volunteer battalions capable at a moment's notice of assuming the offensive against regular troops represent a sheer delusion; but the raw material is still so good that a few weeks would work wonders. The present superiority of training exhibited by the volunteers of 1891 as compared with those of a few years ago represents only the work of two or three days when embodied and really taken in hand. Numbers and physique should therefore be the chief objects in view, together with as much training in drill and musketry as is found compatible with retaining these desiderata. If improving the Volunteers is persisted in much further, their unquestionable value will be impaired rather than increased by "improving" large numbers off the muster rolls altogether.

A special central pivot carriage for the 5½ inch Hontoria guns which are to form the armament of the new Spanish cruisers, was successfully tried at Le Creusot in the presence of a committee of Spanish officers. It is stated to be the lightest of its kind ever constructed, and to have withstood the strain to which it was exposed in a highly satisfactory manner.

Was Count Moltke a General of the first class? asks *London Truth*, and then answers the question by saying: "He may have been, but as he never had to direct a campaign against any first-class or even second-class General, it cannot be asserted as a fact. The Austrian Generals against whom he was pitted were beneath contempt. Not one of the French Generals that he encountered during the Franco-German war was up to the mark of the worst of the first Napoleon's marshals. In war, as Napoleon I. said, good luck plays an important part, and Moltke was always in luck, owing to the weakness and folly of his opponents."

**Militia General Orders (No. 9) of 12th June, 1891.**

ERRATUM.—With reference to Militia General Orders of 29th May, 1891, the Orders therein will read as follows from No. 3 forward:

No. 3.—Captain and Brevet Major Lawrence Buchan, of the Company of Mounted Infantry will proceed to Fredericton, N.B., and assume command of "A" Company, Infantry School Corps, in the absence on duty of Captain and Brevet Major W. D. Gordon.

No. 4.—RESIGNATION OF COMMISSION.

COMPANY OF MOUNTED INFANTRY.—Lieutenant and Brevet Captain James Alexander Bremner, has been permitted to resign his commission.

No. 5.—APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS.

36TH "PEEL" BATTALION OF INFANTRY, O.—No. 2 Company, Glencairn.—To be Captain: 2nd Lieutenant Henry Charles Schomberg Elliot, R.S.I., from No. 7 Company, 35th Battalion, *vice* W. R. Scott, who retires from the service.

To be Lieutenant, provisionally: Marshall Neilly Stephens, Gentleman, *vice* Charles Byng-Hall, left limits.

96TH "DISTRICT OF ALGOMA" BATTALION OF RIFLES, O.—No. 6 Company, Sault Ste. Marie.—To be Lieutenant, provisionally: Sergeant John Absalom Wilde, Gentleman, *vice* Malcolm Green, left limits. By command.

WALKER POWELL, Colonel,  
Adjutant General of Militia,  
Canada.

**HOW TO USE THE MAILS.**

By direction of the Postmaster-General the Chief Post-Office Inspector, Mr. Sweetnam, has lately been making special enquiry into certain cases in which letters and packages of more than ordinary size had been broken or torn in course of post. The chief inspector's investigations lead to the conclusion that, in the great majority of cases, the damage has been the consequence of the inferior coverings (envelopes, paper boxes, etc.) used for the articles in question. He thinks that if the public would enclose their large letters in envelopes of sufficiently good quality and of a size adapted to that of the contents, and if in making up packages they would use good wrapping paper and tie up the whole securely very few breakages would occur in course of post. It should be remembered that every letter and parcel cannot be laid in the most careful manner in the bag or box into which it has to be sorted. Post-office clerks would never get through their work if they had to adopt this mode of treatment for the vast quantities of matter passing through their hands. At the same time the Chief Inspector, by Postmaster-General Huggart's directions, is renewing the instructions to post-office clerks to do all in their power to avoid damage to mail matter, and this doubtless will have a good effect. If the public would work with the post-office to the extent of seeing that the articles they post are in good shape and well secured, the number of complaints would be very materially reduced.

There is a missionary story of the Devil's being obliged to seek appropriate bait for each of the hooks he drops overboard to catch sinners with, excepting the one intended for the profane swearer who takes the unbaited hook. General McCook, commanding the Department of Arizona, seems to hold a similar opinion, and he has set himself to work to put all of his officers in line with the Texas preacher who, in reporting progress, stated that he was "learning to read the Bible and correcting himself of the habit of profane swearing." In a recent G.C.M. order Gen. McCook says: "The proceedings, finding and sentence in the foregoing case of Private Edward Thompson, Troop F, 10th Cav., are approved. The testimony introduced shows that the officer preferring the charges in this case used profane language in connection with his instructions, which no doubt angered the prisoner and caused his insubordination. In view of these facts, and as a warning to officers that the use of abusive or profane language toward those under them will not be countenanced by the Department Commander, so much of the sentence as imposes dishonourable discharge and forfeiture of pay is remitted."

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### Gleanings.

It was a high compliment which Mr. Stanhope paid recently to the Corps of Royal Engineers when responding to "The Army" at the annual dinner of the Institute of Civil Engineers:—

"There is no department which is sacred from the intrusion of the Royal Engineers. Upon the ground, under the ground, in the air, upon the water, and under the water, the services of the Royal Engineers are called into increasing account. Railways, telegraphs, submarine mines, balloons, fortresses, barracks—these set no limits to the directions in which we have to call for the assistance or advice of the Royal Engineers. There is hardly any occasion on which special talents and special powers of adaptation to the circumstances of a particular case are required where the Government of the day does not avail itself of the Royal Engineers. In the first place, the survey of this country, so long delayed, but now happily approaching completion, has been mainly laid on the shoulders of the Royal Engineers. If I were to point to Africa, I should say that in all those great expeditions in which the English nation is carrying on, as we believe, the civilization of the peoples with whom it comes in contact, we are every day availing ourselves largely of the services of the Royal Engineers. Or I might point to Egypt, where great irrigation schemes, due to the energy and ability of Sir C. Scott-Moncrief, have established a system which has undoubtedly been one of the most valuable, and, it may be, one of the most permanent results of the English occupation of Egypt. Or I might point to Ireland and show that even there, where the Government has to grapple with the great exigency of a sudden famine amongst the population of the West of Ireland, we have to look, and we have not looked in vain, to the assistance of the officers and privates of the Royal Engineers. Or, again, may we not for a moment look to that far distant country where, at the present moment, one who bears an honoured name in the history of the British Army—I mean Lt. Grant—is carrying on, as we hope, a gallant struggle against overwhelming odds, under difficulties which, to any one except an Englishman, would appear almost insuperable? Lt. Grant has had enormous difficulties to overcome. He has to defend himself in a very indefensible position against enormous odds; but we feel confidence in him—first, because he has, as we know, the pluck of an English officer; and, secondly, because he is the son of a man well known in the ranks of the Royal Engineers, one who has, as I believe, given to his son some of those hereditary qualities that will enable him to entrench

and defend himself even in the difficult position in which he is placed. Though possessing all those special qualifications, it is some satisfaction to know that they do not withdraw the officers of the Royal Engineers from the claim to fill the highest positions in the general ranks of the army. It is sufficient to mention the names of Lord Napier of Magdala and Gen. Gordon to prove that from the ranks of the Royal Engineers you draw not only specialists, but men able to take command of men equal with those who are engaged in other branches of the profession. Long may this connection exist and exert itself between the engineering branches on the civil side and on the military side!"

Concerning the trial at Havre of the Sims-Edison electric torpedo boat on May 2, described in the *Journal* of May 16, our foreign exchanges say the general opinion of the numerous experts was decidedly favourable. There were present Col. Reginald Talbot and Capt. May, the Military and Naval Attaches to the British Embassy; Major Palliser, Gen. Fredericks, the Russian Military Attache, and the representatives in Paris of almost every other power, the Japanese being very numerous. In answer to an inquiry in parliament concerning this trial Lord G. Hamilton said: "The Sims-Edison, like the Brennan torpedo, is not of a type considered suitable for use by ships at sea, and no experiments with it will, therefore, be carried out by the Admiralty. The trials have been attended by officers acquainted with the Brennan torpedo, and its capabilities, in comparison with that weapon, will doubtless be reported on and considered."—*U. S. Army and Navy Journal*.

*La Presse*, of Paris, May 18 announced that a contract was signed early during the present month between the Russian government and the Chatelleraut arms factory by which the plant of the factory and its employees are at the absolute disposal of Russia, who has given an order for three million new rifles.

A gentleman who is unusually well informed on the subject of small arms, and who spends much of his time abroad, says in a private letter: "The French Lebel rifle is pretty generally conceded by military men as being the poorest of the adopted magazine rifles. The French are by no means satisfied with it, nor do I believe the Government is. If the Government had more strength and support I think that they would, notwithstanding their inclination to economize, immediately take up for trial other magazine arms. As it is, they will be subjected to severe criticism whether they retain the Lebel or adopt another gun."—*Ex.*

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