

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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## NOTE AND COMMENT.

The *Toronto Mail* sees in the award of the contract for the erection of a drill hall in that city, the dawn of "a new era of recognition and appreciation of our citizen regiments," and in evidence of its own intelligent comprehension of the situation proceeds thus:—

"Another matter demanding early settlement is the securing and inaugurating of the new firing ground, which has long been a desideratum of prime necessity. The growth of the city in a westward direction renders it absolutely indispensable that the butts shall be removed from their present position. It is somewhat strange that there has been some utterance of objection to the removal of the butts a few miles out. It has been said that this will be inconvenient. It should not be forgotten, however, that marching is one of the things our military young men need to learn, and it is one moreover which there is perhaps a tendency to neglect in volunteer regiments. The establishment of a firing ground a few miles out, with a suitable space that could be used occasionally for drilling purposes, would perhaps help to increase the marching capabilities of the regiments, and if so it would certainly lead to the soldierly health and fitness of those who compose them."

The above from a paper which has endeavoured to be the champion *par excellence* of the militia in Toronto, is rather unexpected, not to say startling, and we fancy the riflemen would not take very kindly to the dawn of an era such as that indicated. It is plain that the writer of the article is not an authority on the subject he has chosen, and military men could afford to laugh at his absurdities were it not for the mischievous effect upon the mind of the public, very greatly influenced by opinions expressed in the leading newspapers.

The Dufferin Rifles, who a few years ago set the fashion in regimental Christmas cards, since widely copied, have shown enterprise in a new direction by the issue of an appropriately engraved card in connection with the annual church parade service of this year, which was held at the Brant Avenue Methodist Church, Brantford, on the 8th inst. The centre of the card contains the programme of the service, and surrounding it, in the shape of a deep border, there are several pictorial representations. In one of these the regiment is shown at service in the open air, with the tents pitched in the background; another shows an assembly in a church building; and a third shows the regiment on the march. The badge and motto of the regiment form the centre piece at the top.

The standing orders of the Montreal Brigade of Garrison Artillery have recently been issued in the shape of a neat little handbook, with stiff cover, tastily bound in red cloth, with the title and the regimental crest in gilt on the front. The orders are very complete, and will be found a useful model for other corps, especially as they have received the official approval of Major-General Herbert. They

are supplemented by a digest of the services of the Brigade which, according to its own records, dates its organization from 1812, though the Militia List makes the official date November 27th, 1856. The record shows frequent and honourable service, and it was a happy thought on the part of Lieut.-Col. Turnbull and his officers to take this means of placing it in the hands of the members as an inspiration to further excellence.

Month by month, as it came with our exchanges, we have looked with envy and admiration at the handsomely got up and well written *Guardian*, devoted to the interests of the National Guard of the United States. Illustration and letterpress combined made it a model magazine publication, and it deserved to be a great success. But even making allowance for the large field, we could not understand how it paid the publisher. It seems, however, that it did not pay him at all, for the last issue contains a valedictory notice in these terms of characteristic frankness:—

"Becoming convinced that the support of the National Guard is not sufficient to maintain a National Guard journal and not being disposed to personally carry such a burden, I sometime since gave orders to receive no subscriptions for advance publication, intending at the proper time to discontinue the paper. That time has now come. The present number will therefore be the last of *The Guardian* as a monthly publication under the present management. It may be continued as a quarterly. We have no apologies to offer. We have given value received for all but a few unexpired subscriptions which we are prepared to refund when called for."

## REGIMENTAL.

At the annual meeting of the M. G. A. Snowshoe club held recently, the annual report showed a very successful season. It was unanimously resolved to make the Athletic Club house the rendezvous for the coming winter. It was also decided to send invitations to the sister corps of the city to become members, the M. G. A. Snowshoe club being the only military snowshoe club in existence. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—Hon. presidents, Lieut.-Col. Turnbull and Lieut. Col. Oswald; honorary vice-presidents, Major Cole and Captain Finlayson; president, Captain Ogilvy; vice presidents, Lieutenant Reid, Lieut. McEwan and Corp. Gardiner; honorary secretary-treasurer, Staff-Sergt. James Cooper, jr; assistant secretary-treasurer, Sergt. McDonald; pianist, Mr. R. Cooper; committee, Sergeants Pingle, F. Cooper, Corp. Cokers, Corp. Barnwell, Corp. E. Jones, Sergt. Carpenter, Sergt. Crabble, Royal Scots; Bom. Linn.

## THANKSGIVING PARADE IN TORONTO.

With the annual inspection of the Queen's Own and Grenadiers on Thanksgiving Day the military season in Toronto might well be said to have been brought to a close. Increased interest was taken in the inspection this year, owing to the fact that part of the Gzowski Cup competition had to be decided in daylight and in the open air. While

this year's plan worked very well it entailed a great deal harder work than any previous year, and consequently the stamina of participators was well tested. To the civilian this plan was not relished, as it contained none of the excitement attendant upon a sham fight, and although the drill of both battalions was very well done, the same could be seen any Wednesday or Thursday night when the regiments are on their weekly parade, and the march-past has lost all interest. The roll call of the Queen's Own was well attended, some 641 of all ranks being on parade.

Lieut.-Col. Otter, D. A. G., was unable to be present, owing to sickness, and the duty of inspecting the clothing, arms, etc., devolved upon Major Gray, B. M., and Major Vidal and Capt. Macdougall, C. Co., I. S. C. The roll call and inspection of every man proved a very tedious piece of business, yet very thoroughly did these gentlemen do their work and any defects were speedily noted.

Shortly before eleven Lieut.-Col. Hamilton, after thanking all present for the large parade, expressed a desire for the same strength at the inspection the next day, and on behalf of Col. Powell, Adjutant General, who, being on a visit from Ottawa, was present in an entirely unofficial capacity, expressed to the brass band and the buglers the distinguished visitor's appreciation of the very pleasing selections rendered by them during the evening.

At an early hour Thanksgiving Day members of the Queen's Own and Grenadiers might be seen wending their way towards the drill shed, and certainly the prospects of good weather were exceedingly dim; nevertheless it was ideal weather for marching, the state of the roads being the only drawback, as the rain of the previous evening had created considerable mud, and in a few moments after leaving the shed one could hardly believe that boots or leggings had ever been cleaned. The Queen's Own marched out to the grounds, a distance of 5 miles from the city, and on them it can be justly said fell the brunt of the work, as the Grenadiers were assisted by some 15 or 16 street cars. Last year the Grenadiers indulged in riding on the steam cars, but this time the facilities and capacity of the new street railway company were tested, and the novel spectacle of a regiment thus transported to their review ground attracted great attention.

Both regiments marched home at night, accompanied by nearly as large a crowd of spectators as watched the sham fight last year. At all events if not as large they seemed twice as hard to control, and 58 men of C. Co., I. S. C., under Lieut. Laurie had an exceedingly hard time in making the spectators understand that the whole earth, including the saluting base, was not theirs and that others had a small lien on it.

One of the spectators insisted on driving through the square but the treatment he received at the hands of one of the Grenadier Pioneers will teach him that defiance of the military, especially on their day out, does not pay.

Promptly at 9.05 the Queen's Own "fall in" sounded and about half an hour later 581 officers, N.C.O.s and men left the drill shed and the programme of the day was begun. After an exceedingly muddy march the Queen's Own arrived at the spot chosen for the day's proceedings, which was a large open field east of the village of Norway and immediately north of the Kingston Road,—a few minutes after eleven o'clock, and found awaiting them Lieut.-Col. Otter, D.A.G., Major Vidal, Capt. Macdougall and Major Meade. No time was lost in commencing the inspection, A, D and G Companies being ordered out for an examination in company drill. While this was going on Major Delamere was manoeuvring the remaining 7 companies, and a fall of sleet just about this time made the proceedings anything but enjoyable. Immediately after the companies were inspected the battalion was examined with Lieut.-Col. Hamilton, Major Delamere and Major Sankey alternately in command. The manual was exceedingly well done but the firing was spoiled

through a mistake in the word of command. The battalion was then exercised in deploying to the left, also with two companies to the right, advancing and retiring in echelon, changes of front and forming square. Arms were then piled and the regiment were dismissed for lunch, whilst the reviewing officers turned their attention to the Grenadiers, who had just arrived on the grounds.

The Grenadiers paraded at the Armoury at 10.30 some 455 of all ranks being present, H Company being the largest on parade. E, I and K Companies were then called out and examined by the reviewing officers in company drill and very well they acquitted themselves. The battalion was then exercised in turn by Lieut.-Col. Dawson, Major Harrison and Capt. McLean, after which the men were dismissed for lunch.

After lunch the regiments were formed up and the march past in column, quarter column and at the double was gone through, the brigade then advanced in review order, after which the D. A. G., addressing the Colonels of both regiments, said that he was sorry to disappoint them in not giving them the attack, which owing to the lateness of the hour would be dispensed with. The appearance of both officers and men was creditable. The muster was strong and the battalion and company drill had been capitally performed, the men worked steadily and intelligently; one or two junior officers were not up to the mark in company drill, owing probably to lack of practice. "If Col. Powell is present," he added, "and I am told he is on the grounds, he will not see this drill any better performed by any volunteers than those here."

Immediately after this column of route was formed and the march home was begun; the armoury was reached about six o'clock.

The officers of the Queen's Own dined at Webb's in the evening, while the officers of the Grenadiers had boxes at the performance of "Ben Hur."

Quartermaster-Sergt. Dale met with rather a painful injury while on the way to the grounds, he being thrown from the commissariat waggon, the wheels of which passed over both legs below the knee. Although no bones were broken his injuries are of a serious nature, and it is the sincere wish of his brother non-coms. in the city that he will soon be up and around again.

The small boy was out in force and as usual had a big time. Not content with lighting bonfires of dried leaves, fences, etc., a deserted cottage must also be fired to satiate his thirst. Happily no damage was done and no one will lose much by its destruction.

#### THE KILTIED CORPS.

The Kilties paraded Friday night under Capt. Macdougall and instructors from the Fort, after which the names of some six were read out as provisional sergeants to the new corps. Capt. Macdougall explained that these men would be compelled to qualify and the non-commissioned officers' class was then formed with upwards of thirty members.

One or two soreheads are growling in the papers about the ex-members of the Queen's Own and Grenadiers getting the preference in promotions. This, of course, doesn't amount to anything, and stamps the knowledge, &c., of the men who, while violating the Queen's Regulations, are of the opinion that through them and them alone will the regiment amount to anything. Men like these do a lot of harm, but it doesn't take very long before their measure is correctly taken and their absence preferred to their presence.

BREECH-BLOCK.

#### THE DUFFERN RIFLES INSPECTION

On Thanksgiving Day the annual inspection of the 38th battalion Dufferin Rifles, was held. The day was cloudy and threatening, and the streets in an awful condition. However, this did not deter the members of the regiment from turning out and making an excellent showing. At 2.

15 p. m. they marched from the drill shed headed by the brass band twenty-five strong, and a bugle band twenty strong. The music of both bands was excellent. The route was along Colborne street, which was lined with citizens who applauded the marching. The total strength of the regiment was 283. "B" company had the largest number on parade. They arrived at the Agricultural park about 2.30. Colonel Gray, accompanied by his A. D. C., Lieutenant Windyer, arrived shortly after and was received with the general salute. The battalion marched past in column, changed ranks and marched past in quarter column, and again changed ranks and marched past at the double. They were then put through several battalion movements in competition for the Gzowski cup. Among these movements were forming battalion square, changing front in line, advancing by fours from right of companies, and front forming into line. Two companies were then put through drill for the competition for the Hudson challenge cup. The battalion then returned to the drill shed where the other four companies were put through drill separately. Colonel Gray did not address the men, but to Colonel Jones and Major Jones he said he was highly pleased at the soldierly bearing of the battalion and they had done their drill in a highly creditable manner. He also stated that each man looked neat and clean, showing that pains had been taken with the uniform and accoutrements.

In the evening the officers entertained Colonel Gray in their elegant regimental quarters on Colborne street. Those present were Col. Jones, Major Jones, Major Wilkes, Adjutant Jones, Surgeon Harris, Pay-master Captain Hamilton, Lieut. Windyer and Captains Leonard, Nelles, Ruddy, Robertson, Curtis and Perks; and Lieutenants Kilmaster, Fowler, Park, Howard, Fuller, Jenkins and Cameron; and Messrs. D. Reville, J. J. Hunter and Taylor.

Major Wilkes proposed the Queen, which was heartily drunk and followed by the national anthem. An adjournment was then made to the smoking room, where music and conversation were enjoyed. During the evening Colonel Gray, who was assisted by Lieutenant Windyer as judge, announced the result of the competition for the Hudson cup. "D" company, commanded by Captain Robertson, was the lucky company, receiving seventy-two points for drill and eighteen-and-a-half for attendance, making a total of ninety-and-a-half. "F" company, commanded by Captain Nelles, was second, and while receiving seventy-six points for drill only received thirteen-and-a-half for attendance, giving them a total of eighty-nine and-a-half.

"D" company hold the Stratford shield, Judge Jones' cup, the Queen's Own \$250 trophy, all won at rifle matches. It is an unusual thing for a single company to hold all the prizes.

## THE RIFLE.

### A NEW SYSTEM OF SIGNALLING.

A correspondent of *Shooting and Fishing* sends from Bombay a description of a dummy target for signalling purposes invented by the secretary of the Bombay Residency Rifle Association and to be extensively used at the central meeting to be held at Poona in January. The system of signalling and marking seems cumbersome compared with that in use in Canada. It has, however, been officially approved by Sir George Greaves, K. C. B., Commander-in-Chief Bombay Army (a gentleman holding advanced views in regard to rifle shooting), and will doubtless be adopted throughout India. This dummy target is intended to do away with all flags and discs now used for signalling purposes, and to be an improvement on the targets used at Bisley by the National Rifle Association. Two posts not less than six inches square are erected in each butt, standing 14 feet high from level of ground, and six feet six inches apart. The sides facing inwards are fitted like a window frame to take

the dummy target, which is pulled into position by two strings fastened to its top, running through a pulley from inside, outwards at the top of posts, and is held in position while practice is going on by simply fastening the strings on a catch placed within reach of the outside of the two posts.

The target itself is 6 feet and 6 inches square, outside measurement. The framework is of wood, 2 inches wide by 2½ inches deep, with a vertical centre piece 1 by 2½ inches. The frame is covered with canvas, painted white on the inside, which faces the firing point. Four 3/8ths of an inch iron rods run vertically close to the insides of the framework and are securely fastened at top and bottom of frame with fly nuts. A piece of canvas painted black, with an iron rod at top and bottom, and fitted with brass rings on each side through which the iron uprights, in half division of the target, are placed, is the signalling apparatus. A hook on the centre of the top bar, with a string attached, running through a pulley fixed to the top part of the frame in the middle of the division, operates the signal. A similar piece of black is fitted to the left half division of the dummy target.

Assuming that the target and range are ready for practice the following are the operations for signalling: The target fired at stands on a trolley running on iron rails placed two and a half feet apart. A bullseye is struck; the target is hauled in, and the target ready is run out for the next shot. The marker pulls the right string to the bullseye knob to which it is hooked on, then takes his pencil or pen and marks the bull in his butt memorandum. The string he pulled elevated or distended the piece of black canvas so that it represented a square yard of black, covering the right bottom quarter of the dummy target. The signal communicates the value of the shot to the firing point. Having entered the value of the shot in his memorandum he lets go the string, when the black canvas, weighted on the top with the iron rod, collapses of its own accord and leaves the dummy a blank white. While the marker was thus operating his assistant patched up the hole in the bull; pushed the target back on the slide, draws in the target which has again been fired at, and sends the other out to be fired at.

The marker spots the next hit as a magpie, pulls the left string, which elevates the black canvas square to the top of the right division of the dummy, fixes the ring on the "magpie" knob, marks the value of the shot in his memorandum, lets go the string, while his assistant is doing his share of the duty by patching the shot, pushing the target back in the slide, hauling the other into the butt, and sending the clean one out for the next shot, and so on, no time being lost between shots, the signal being unmistakable and clearly seen at longest firing point. The inner is shown on the left bottom corner of the dummy, and the outer on the left top corner, while a ricochet shot is shown by displaying the two black squares on a black bar across the middle of the dummy, thus leaving 1½ feet at the top, and the same space at the bottom of the target white. Misses are not shown. This arrangement is thought to be economical and effective, besides increasing rapidity of firing and signalling.

### THE PETERBOROUGH RANGERS.

The Fifty-Seventh Battalion Peterborough Rangers had their annual rifle matches on Thanksgiving Day, 12th inst. These matches were the most successful ever held under the auspices of the battalion. There were 125 competitors, and they did excellent work, the "green" marksmen especially distinguishing themselves and crowding some of the crack shots closely. Everything passed off smoothly and without a hitch, thanks largely to the completeness of the arrangements and judicious management of the range officers, Capt. Dennistoun and Lt. Schofield. At noon luncheon was served by Mr. John Craig. The day was fine, wind moderate to the left, the light dull and the fouling dry. The total amount distributed in prizes was \$150.

Battalion match.—The first event shot off was the battalion match. In this the ranges were 100 yards, 200, 300 and 400 yards. There were fifty prizes ranging from \$3.00 to 50 cents, aggregating \$45. The following are the scores.

Capt. Hill .....	66	Corp. Gaskin.....	53
Pte. W. Metheral.....	65	Pte. Maxwell.....	52
Pte. G. Fitzgerald.....	64	Col. Sergt. Distin.....	52
Pte. D. Cameron.....	64	Pte. Weatherhead.....	51
Col. Sergt. Irwin.....	63	Pte. E. Manning.....	50
Pte. Pentland.....	62	Staff Sergt. W. Robinson.....	50
Lt. Matthews.....	61	Corp. Petrie.....	50
Pte. Blade.....	61	Corp. Buimer.....	50
Capt. Brennan.....	61	Bandmaster Miller.....	49
Capt. Miller.....	59	Capt. Mason.....	49
Lt. Stevenson.....	59	Sergt. Meharry.....	47
Staff Sgt. Belleghem.....	59	Pte. Hudson.....	47
Corp. Roberts.....	59	Lt. Schofield.....	47
Pte. Chapman.....	58	Pte. Crowe.....	47
Sergt. J. Metheral.....	58	Corp. Green.....	45
Sergt. F. Metheral.....	58	Pte. Bysh.....	44
Capt. Dennistoun.....	57	Bandsman Miller.....	44
Pte. Roberts.....	57	Pte. H. Robinson.....	43
Corp. Campbell.....	55	Pte. Ritchie.....	43
Bugler Sharp.....	55	Sergt. W. Lloyd.....	43
Pte. Curtis.....	55	Pte. S. Manning.....	42
Pte. A. W. Flemming.....	54	Pte. Hunter.....	42
Pte. W. S. Cocks.....	54	Pte. G. Vought.....	41
Pte. Thompson.....	54	Bandsman Phillips.....	41
Pte. McGill.....	53	Pte. C. McFarlane.....	40

Company Team Match.—For this event there were seven entries. The first prize, \$10, was won by No. 5 Company, with a score of 585; the second prize, \$5, was won by No. 2 Company, with a score of 525; the next highest score was that of No. 3 Company, 522.

Nursery Prizes.—Twelve prizes in cash were awarded by each company for Nursery Prizes, the scores in the battalion match to count, open to all men who have never won a prize outside of the regimental matches. This is the list of the chief winners:—No. 1 Company—Pte. A. W. Fleming, 53; Pte. Maxwell, 52; Corp. Weatherhead, 51. No. 2 Company—Pte. Metheral, 65; Sergt. J. Metheral, 58; Sergt. F. Metheral, 58. No. 3 Company—Pte. Chapman, 58; Corp. Gaskins, 53; Pte. E. Hudson, 47. No. 4 Company—Bugler Sharpe, 55; Pte. W. S. Cocks, 54; Pte. Stinson, 37. No. 5 Company—Col. Sergt. Irwin, 63; Sergt. Roberts, 59; Pte. Chapman, 58. No. 6 Company—Pte. C. Macfarlane, 40; Pte. L. Cluxton, 37; Pte. F. J. Cocks, 33.

Range Prizes.—The six highest scores at each of the ranges in the battalion match determined the winners in this event which were as follows:—100 yards—Capt. Mason, 18; Pte. Ritchie, 18; Sergt. Metheral, 18; Pte. Curtis, 17; Pte. Weatherhead, 17; Sergt. Irwin, 17. 200 yards—Bandsman Miller, 18; Pte. W. Metheral, 18; Pte. McGill, 17; Sergt. F. Metheral, 17; Capt. Hill, 17; Pte. Pentland, 17. 300 yards—Pte. G. Fitzgerald, 18; Lieut. Stevenson, 18; Staff Sergt. Belleghem, 18; Pte. Meharry, 18; Capt. Brennan, 17; Corp. Green, 17. 400 yards—Pte. McGill, 17; Pte. G. Fitzgerald, 16; Capt. Hill, 16; Pte. W. Metheral, 16; Pte. Cameron, 16; Col. Sergt. Irwin, 16.

Skirmishing Match.—Teams of five men from each company, eight teams competing: \$5, No. 3 Company, 150; \$2.50, No. 5 Company, 133.

THE BERTHIER RIFLE.

The English papers are discussing the good points of this arm, which has been declared by experts to be superior in many respects to the Lee, the weapon adopted a few years ago by the British authorities, but which has never been satisfactory. The *Times* declare the Berthier to be a much superior weapon. It is thus written of in the *United Service Gazette*:—

It is not at all improbable that before long the Berthier rifle will be finally approved as the small arm of the French Army, and be gradually introduced into the Infantry as the Lebel is expended.

Already the French are arming their Cavalry with the Berthier carbine, 80,000 of these weapons being in process of manufacture. The cartridges made for the Lebel will be serviceable with the new arm, so that the confusion and danger certain to arise in an action from having two kinds of ammunition will be avoided.

As the Berthier rifle could be easily made to take the English service 303 magazine rifle ammunition, the ballistics in both cases being identical, and it could therefore be tentatively adopted into our own Army without at once revolutionising its armaments, it becomes of special interest to consider the merits of the newer weapon.

In the first place, anyone inspecting and handling the rifle, as we ourselves have done, cannot but be struck with its extreme simplicity and handiness. Whereas the Lee-Speed has a total of ninety-eight parts, the Berthier has but sixty-three; the number of parts in the breech mechanism in the latter being but eight, as against twenty-three in the former, and having the further advantage of having no screws. The French propose to give the private soldier control of the breech mechanism of this rifle, and as he cannot well injure it we think this would be an advantage, as he could keep it clean and oiled.

On the score of economy the Berthier has much to recommend it, as its trade price is but £4, as against £6 in the case of our magazine rifle.

The Hotchkiss Company have acquired the patent rights of the Berthier rifle everywhere out of France, and the inventor, M. Berthier, is now in the company's employ. This rifle has been shown to numerous officers of foreign armies, and their opinion was quite unanimous in favour of its being the simplest and most suitable for service conditions of any magazine rifle yet introduced.

We are indebted for many of the following particulars to a paper lately communicated to the Royal Artillery Institution by Lieut.-Colonel W. B. Hemans, late R. A.

The rifle has a bolt action, and gives its bullet a muzzle velocity of 2,071 feet per second. The breech mechanism is of very simple type, and consists of very few parts, none of which are at all liable to get out of action. The magazine is quite separate from, and not attached to the rifle at all; it is simply a metal clip, costing to make about a halfpenny, and in it four cartridges are packed, thus forming a package of cartridges. Of such packages the soldier carries as many as may be ordered, each one thus constituting a separate magazine.

To use the magazine it is simply dropped into the breech of the rifle, and the cartridges in it are fed up one by one, as its predecessor is extracted, by means of a spring which forces each cartridge vertically up into the chamber. When the fourth and last cartridge is pushed into the chamber, the magazine falls through automatically, and another can be dropped into its place.

To use the rifle as a single loader, the magazine is not put in, but the single cartridge is simply inserted in its place behind the chamber, the top of the feeding-up spring for the magazine affording ample bearing for the whole length of the cartridge.

For quickness of fire, simplicity, handiness, general efficiency, and compliance of service conditions, the Berthier rifle can challenge a favourable comparison with any magazine rifle in existence.

The following are the particulars of the rifle and cartridge as intended for the French Army:—

Rifle.....	Calibre .....	0" 301
	Diameter to bottom of rifling.....	0" 313
	Depth of " " .....	0" 006
	Rifling .....	1 turn in 9" 45
	Number of grooves .....	4
	The breadth of the grooves is double that of the lands.	

Cartridge	Diameter of bullet .....	0" 308		
		Length of bullet .....	1" 142	
			Total weight of cartridge .....	grains 380
			Weight of bullet .....	" 205
			" capped case .....	" 142
" powder (smokeless) charge .....	" 33			

The muzzle velocity of the rifle with 33 grains charge of French smokeless powder is 2,071 feet per second, and the pressure in the chamber 14 tons per square inch.

The following are the particulars of the results of some "rough usage" trials:—

A cartridge was charged with a small charge of sporting powder, fired, and the bullet jammed about half way up the barrel. It was then attempted to eject the jammed bullet, by firing a cartridge charged with 33 grains of ballistite smokeless powder, but without avail. The pressure must have been very great, but the breech mechanism was in no way affected, and the erosion was very trifling. A very slight enlargement of the chamber was observed, but there was not the smallest fissure, and the rifle continued to fire with no interruption after the bullet was forced out.

A rifle was left in mud for some days, the magazine stuffed with dirt and grit, but it was found sufficient to work the elevator for a couple of seconds to throw out the dirt, etc., which fell through the lower opening of the magazine, when the firing was carried on, and not the least difficulty experienced.

The packets of cartridges were placed in a belt bandolier, when a man firing with the waistbelt on him, succeeded in making a fair target at the rate of twenty-eight shots per minute.

The cartridge bullets are made of hardened lead, surrounded with an envelope of white metal (melchior) 0.02" in thickness. In France, we believe, it is intended that the soldier should carry 100 rounds of ammunition, which, including the packet magazines, will weigh about 6 lb.

At a recent trial of the rifle the following were its performances:—

- Mean muzzle velocity, 2,071 ft.
- Pressure in powder chamber, 14 tons per square inch.
- Penetration of elm at 60 yards, 25 inches.
- Penetration of mild steel plate (portion of machine gun shield), 7.32 inches at 150 yards from the muzzle.

Correct targets were made at the following ranges:

200 yards .....	to elevation.
500 " .....	4° "
1,000 " .....	30° "

A skilled soldier or marksman can easily, making a target, expend seven magazines, or twenty eight rounds within the minute.

For serviceability, simplicity, and capability to withstand rough usage, the Berthier rifle will compare most favourably with the English magazine rifle; and, so far as we can see there is every reason why the former should have an exhaustive trial in our own Services. It could well be introduced in the first instance into the Navy or the Indian Army. If our authorities are still wedded to the idea of having a magazine carrying a large number of cartridges, and intended to be only used at the last moment, we understand that the Berthier rifle could be constructed so as to admit of a magazine containing any number of cartridges up to twelve. With a rifle, however, capable of discharging twenty-eight aimed shots a minute, this hardly seems necessary.

We believe that an early pattern of the rifle was tested at Enfield some months ago with good results and that improvements have been made in the rifle since which meet all objections.

THE SIOUX WAR.

The annual report of Major Gen. Nelson A. Miles, commanding the Department of the Missouri, gives an historical review of the Sioux war of last winter—its causes, episodes and results. In concluding his remarks on the campaign, Gen. Miles says: Notwithstanding the fact that the volcano has cooled down, the fires of discord still remain. Even while the hostages were at Fort Sheridan, they received communications from their friends in the Sioux camps, saying that they had not given up the conspiracy of a grand uprising of the Indians, and that the Utes were ready to join the Sioux whenever they were ready to resume hostilities. Communications have been discovered going on between the different camps, inciting the Indians to hostilities, and even now (the report is dated Sept. 14) there is a delegation from the Indian territory absent, ostensibly to visit relatives at the Arapahoe and Shoshone Reservations in Wyoming. They have, in fact, gone across the moun-

Snider Rifles for Sale.

The advertiser has for sale, at a bargain, two Long Snider Rifles in excellent condition. They have only been in use a short time and are almost as good as new. Reasons for selling furnished upon application. Correspondence solicited.

RIFLEMAN.

4, Militia Gazette Office.

SGT.-MAJOR MUNRO'S

"NOTES ON BATTALION DRILL"

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CHAS. SWIFT,  
BOOTMAKER

To the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada,

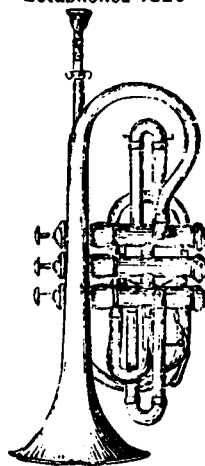
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tains, and are now in the abodes of the supporters of the Messiah delusion, near Pyramid Lake, in Nevada During the months following the serious disturbance of the peace, the confidence of all has been restored. Many of the settlers have gone back to their abandoned homes and ranches, and the Indians have resumed their accustomed occupations. The affairs are gradually adjusting themselves, after being in a state of transition for a long time. The days of large holdings of land by the Indians in common will eventually cease, and the Indians take up lands in severalty.

**MILITARY MIRTH**  
WHAT THE POET MEANT.

"What did the poet mean when he called this country 'the land of the free and the home of the brave?'"  
"He was probably referring to bachelors and married men," said old Mr. Smithers sally.—Puck.

PREPARED TO OPEN THE CAMPAIGN.

"Why, Cousin Jenny," said Captain Jinks, "what a beautiful complexion you have! You are the belle of the dance to-night."  
"Yes, Tom, I agreed to furnish the powder if papa would provide the ball. My partners must furnish the arms."  
"O, I see, and you expect to bring on an engagement."—Detroit Free Press.

HE WAS AT CHICKAMAUGA.

"Yes," said the strange man, "I was at Chickamauga when the balls were flying." "You don't say so?" said an interested listener. "I do," said the strange man. "Hot time, wasn't it?" "You're right. Ninety-five in the shade and the best ball game ever played in this section!"—Atlanta Constitution.

TAPS.

Softly, through the sleeping oak trees,  
Steals the sighing southern breeze;  
Low the bugle notes are falling  
Sweet good night to each one calling;  
While a stalwart soldier lingers,  
Clasping closely tapering fingers,  
Whispering low "Good night, good night."  
--Mary C. Drum, in Waverly Magazine.

ON DRESS PARADE.

(Private Smith, in front rank, to Comrade Jones, *sotto voce*.)  
"Great Scott, Jimmie, my suspenders have broke and my--"  
"Carry Arms!"  
"trousers are slip--"  
"Right shoulder Arms!"  
"ping down--what'il I--"  
"Support Arms!"  
"do! Heavens, man! there they--"  
"Carry Arms!"  
"go. O, Lord!"  
Private Smith falls out and is carried off by hospital corps. Surgeon's report: "Private Smith unfit for duty overcome by unavoidable exposure and nervous excitement."

VISITORS IN CAMP.

"Oh, Sergeant, what a perfectly lovely white helmet—but what is the chain for?"  
"Why, you see, Miss Blank, they don't allow any talking on parade, and that is to chain up the chin music."  
"Oh, Sergeant, I dont think it's nice at all for the colonel to tell the companies to 'rear into column.' It's so inelegant."  
"Sergeant, what did that soldier mean by saying he wanted to go to town after taps?"  
"Sh! h! h! h! Don't say a word! You know what it means to tap a barrel? Well that's what the corporal's going after. Same taps! Same barrel!"  
"Sergeant, what does that man mean by telling them 'Right Dress?'"  
"Oh, every fellow has to look and see if the man on his right has got all his clothes on."  
"How funny! But what does 'Order Arms, mean?'"  
"It means that all the orderly sergeants must have the right arm curved with the angle of incidence about the *point d'appui*--this way."  
"Oh! you naughty, naughty man!"

**HAWKES & CO.,**  
14 Piccadilly, London, W.  
**Helmet, Army Cap, and Accoutrement**  
**MANUFACTURERS,**  
TAILORS AND MILITARY OUTFITTERS,  
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**McVITTIE'S** Martini and Snider Rifles, Smith & Wesson 32-44 or 38-44 Target Revolvers and Volunteer Shooting Requisites for 1891.

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**NEW CANADIAN WIND GAUGE**  
FOR SNIDER AND MARTINI-HENRY  
**RIFLES.**

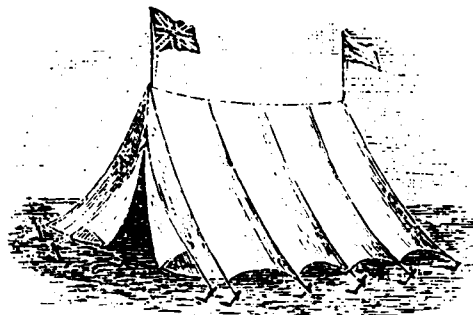
PRICE \$1.25.

As I have gone to the old country on the Bisley Team, Corpl. McVittie will attend to all orders during my absence. All my Rifles are fitted and tested and ready to be shipped on shortest notice.

The following score was made by Staff-Sergt. John Ogg in a match at Guelph on the 13th June, with one of my Special Wbley Martini Henry Rifles at Queen's Ranges and position:

200 yards.....	5 5 5 5 4 5 34	) 103
300 yards.....	5 5 5 5 5 4 31	
600 yards.....	5 5 5 5 5 5 35	

Send for New Price List. ADDRESS  
**R. McVITTIE, 5 Harbord St, Toronto, Ont**



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Do not forget to have a good supply of

**LYMAN'S FLUID COFFEE,**

A Home Luxury Available Anywhere,

COFFEE of the FINEST FLAVOR can be made in a MOMENT ANYWHERE, IN ANY QUANTITY. As good with condensed milk as fresh, or as "Cafe Noir."

FULL DIRECTIONS WITH EACH BOTTLE.

It is the Great Convenience and Luxury of the day. Rich and Full Flavored, Wholesome, Stimulating, Easy of Use, Economical, the General Favourite. No cheap substitute of Peas, Wheat or Barley, but Genuine Mocha and Old Government Java.

For Sale by Grocers and Druggists in lb., 1/2 lb. and 1/4 lb. Bottles. TRIAL SIZE, 5 cts. Mention this paper.

**Province of Quebec Lottery.**

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On December 2nd and 16th.

3,134 PRIZES

WORTH - \$52,740.00.

CAPITAL PRIZE,

WORTH - \$15,000.00.

Ticket, - - - \$1.00.

11 Tickets for - \$10.00.

ASK FOR CIRCULARS.

LIST OF PRIZES.

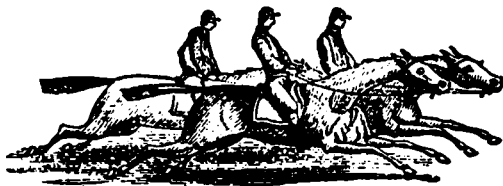
1 Prize, worth \$15,000.....	\$15,000
1 " " " 5,000.....	5,000
1 " " " 2,500.....	2,500
1 " " " 1,250.....	1,250
2 Prizes, " " 1,000.....	1,000
5 " " " 250.....	1,250
25 " " " 50.....	1,250
100 " " " 25.....	2,500
200 " " " 15.....	3,000
500 " " " 10.....	5,000

APPROXIMATION PRIZES.

100 Prizes, worth \$50.....	\$5,000
100 " " " 15.....	1,500
100 " " " 10.....	1,000
999 " " " 5.....	4,995
999 " " " 5.....	4,995

3134 Prizes, worth .....\$52,740  
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**CARSLAKE'S**  
\$40,000.00

**Cambridgeshire Sweep,**

8,000 TICKETS, \$5 EACH.

1st Horse, 4 prizes.....\$3,000 each  
2nd Horse, 4 prizes.....\$2,000 each  
3rd Horse, 4 prizes.....\$1,000 each  
\$3,000 divided amongst other starters.....4 prizes each  
\$3,000 divided amongst non-starters.....4 prizes each

Tickets numbered from 1 to 8,000. 125 horses entered, 4 prizes each. Total prizes, 500. Guaranteed to fill. Drawing October 25th, Race 2th

Address GEO. CARSLAKE, Prop. Mansion House, 522 St. James street, Montreal.

N.B.—Two stamped envelopes must be enclosed with order for tickets—one for reply and one for result of drawing.

Manchester Handicap, Nov. 28th, \$10,000.

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**DIRECTIONS.**  
Free the leather from dirt or any other kind of Blacking.  
Apply a very small quantity of this Composition with a Stiff Brush, then with a Soft Brush a fine polish can be instantly produced, which will be found very durable and thoroughly **WATERPROOF.**

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Send 5 cent stamp for Catalogue.



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**SEALED TENDERS,** marked on the left hand corner of the envelope, "Tenders for Militia Store Supplies and Necessaries," addressed to the Honourable the Minister of Militia and Defence, will be received up to noon of Monday, the 30th of November, 1891.

Printed forms of tender, containing full particulars, may be obtained from the Department at Ottawa, and at the following Militia Stores, where also sealed patterns of all articles may be seen, viz.—The Offices of the Superintendents of Stores at London, Toronto, Kingston, Montreal, Quebec, Halifax, N.S. and St. John, N.B.

Every article to be supplied (as well as the material therein), must be of Canadian manufacture.

No tender will be received unless made on a printed form furnished by the Department, nor will a tender be considered if the printed form is altered in any manner whatever.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted Canadian bank cheque for an amount equal to ten per cent. of the total value of the articles tendered for, which will be forfeited if the party making the tender declines to sign a contract when called upon to do so. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

A. BENOFF, Capt.,  
Secretary.

Department of Militia and Defence.

OTTAWA, 15th October, 1891.

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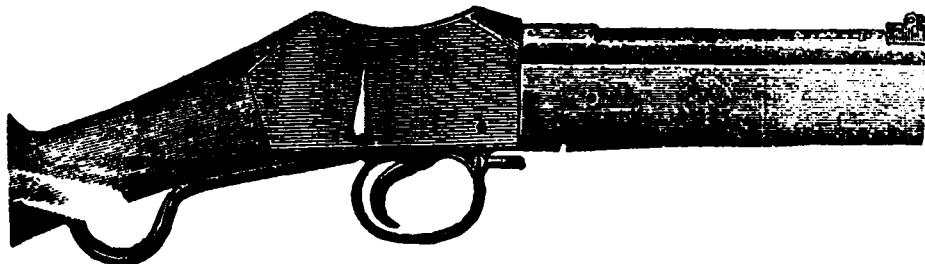
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We have a large number of Martini-Henry Rifles, by Turner, Webley, Fraser, Field and others, slightly second-hand, which we have taken in exchange, and which we can offer at 40s. to 50s. each NET CASH.

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3rd "	50	10	60 "
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