## THE CANADIAN

# MILITIA GAZETTE

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE ACTIVE FORCE OF THE DOMINION.

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#### CORRESPONDENCE.

The MILITIA GAZETTE aims at being the recognized medium of instruction and information for Canadian militiamen and rifle shots. Communications on the subjects to which its pages are devoted are respectfully invited. Anonymous communications will not be regarded. No name will be published, except with the writer's consent. The editors will not be responsible for the views of correspondents.

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THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE.

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#### COMMENT AND CRITICISM.

In entering upon a new year it gives our management the greatest pleasure to wish to each and all of our readers much happiness and success, and to thank them for the ready support accorded to us. We have every reason to be gratified with our present position, and foresee a long and close connection with the Militia force in the time to come. Our effort has so evidently been appreciated that we will be enabled to put forth greater efforts in the future to make the Gazette interesting and instructive. Again we wish all our readers a Happy New Year.

The year just closed has been a most eventful one to the militia force of Canada, certainly the most important in fifteen years, and we had an idea of devoting some space to a review of the events of principal importance to the force; but on second thoughts we changed our mind. The outbreak of the insurrection last March, the progress of the troops sent to suppress it and their brilliant success; the doings of the Wimbledon team; and the competitions on the several rifle ranges of the country, culminating in the Dominion meeting here; the changes in the Militia list caused by retirements and promotions, and the irremediable losses caused especially by the insurrection, from the death of Col. Williams downwards, are all so fresh in our memories that they need no recapitulation. No, let the Gazette as a whole stand as a record of what our Militia did last year.

Respecting the Indians the reports of probable trouble are most emphatically denied by the Government. The Bloods and Piegans near McLeod, who were most feared, have had a pow-wow with Colonel Irvine, and express themselves well satisfied with their treatment, and determined to respect the authorities; and contradictions of disquieting reports from other Indian centres have also been made. The Indian Department reports that its agents are issuing full rations daily to all the treaty Indians, and that of itself should be sufficient to insure peace; in fact everything goes to show that Canada is determined in the future, as in the past, to treat her red dependents fairly and keep them in order by just and generous dealings rather than by force of arms.

In our first number we expressed the desire to establish a column in the interests of the medical portion of the service, and nothing would have given us greater pleasure, nor perhaps been productive of more good, than to see such subjects receiving that attention at the hands of our medical confrères that their importance demands. We have been frustrated in this desire, however, by the apathy displayed in all quarters by our Militia surgeons, who appear to take very little if any, interest in what ought to chiefly concern them, viz.: the development of the medical branch of the Canadian Militia. When the time comes for their services to be called into requisition they are never behindhand in grumbling if they do not find what they want ready at hand, and vet during the many months of the year when they are not called upon in their military capacity they appear to lose all interest in the force, and it is difficult to get them sufficiently enthusiastic to don their regimentals. We should like to see them in all quarters throw a little warmth into their work, and to show in that way that they appreciate their position, which at times becomes a most important one in the eyes of the public, the regiment, and the government.

We have allowed our contributors "Misty" and "Grenade" the utmost latitude in discussing the question of uniform, because we felt that the subject was one of considerable importance, and that it would be to the advantage of the force that the different aspects of the question should be thoroughly ventilated. For ourselves, we would choose a happy mean between something more showy than the "Noodle" advocates and less expensive than the present regulation; and the very diverse views enunciated plainly show the necessity for full and authoritative dress regulations for our own use, based on some known principle, and not liable to constant change.

The medal question has also received a full share of attention, and probably more space than it deserved. With this week's letter from "The Odd File," in answer to "Ottawa," we must beg to close the correspondence on this subject unless some entirely new points are forthcoming, at least until the medals are actually distributed. The whole discussion seems to have created a certain amount of ill-feeling, and to have subserved no useful purpose, especially as the Imperial authorities have taken the matter into their own hands, and will probably regulate it in accordance with their own established rules.

A correspondent of the Quebec (hronic's states flatly that some of the officers marked in the Militia List as having taken part in the suppression of the Fenian raids are not entitled to that distinction, and counsels that the Minister of Militia should have the list revised. The correspondent must surely be mistaken, for the general order asking that details should be forwarded to headquarters, specified what information was required, and it would be easy for the Department to check by the records the claims sent in. A general charge such as that made in the Chronicle is uscless and even mischievous; if anyone knows of a fraudulent record being obtained it is his duty to the whole force to come forward manfully and explicitly expose the fraud.

The 7th Fusiliers "see the Dufferin Rifles," in the matter of Christmas cards, "and go them one better." That just issued by the former corps depicts an episode of their North-west experience, when, as their own poet tells us in questionable metre,

> "Down the dark Saskatchewan river In those good flat-bottomed boats, Through the haunts of the otter and beaver, Floated we with the government oats."

The scow has got stuck on a mud bank, and the "boys," in uniform more undress than any described even by "Noodle," are wading ashore with the freight, while one has accomplished the feat of falling flat on his back without wetting any of his clothes. The badge and device of the regiment handsomely printed in a circle in the upper right hand corner complete their unique memento.

We publish this week some proposals for simplification of the present method of formation for attack arranged by Captain Lydon, adjutant of the Fifth Royal Scots, and now submitted for the consideration and criticism of the force at large. The scheme appears to be somewhat similar to those prepared by Col. Macdonald and Capt. Ian Hamilton in England.

A correspondent in Digby, Nova Scotia, complains that the Government grant to county rifle associations was withheld this past year in some cases in the Ninth military district, and instances those of the counties of Digby and Hants. He says that for want of the grant the Digby association, of which he is a member, was unable to hold its usual annual matches, and he looks upon the omission as a great loss to the men of the county in consequence of discouraging them from practice. We quite agree with him that the withholding of a grant is a great loss, but the question arises, whose fault was it? The Militia Department has proved pretty liberal with grants, and in many cases has even given them to very unworthy associations, which did little for themselves, and virtually held close matches with the money so rereived for the benefit of a few fossil members. Before we pronounce an opinion in this case we should like to be assured that the association was a lice one, that it had complied with the Regulations and Orders, that it had forwarded returns as required, and that the Deputy-Adjutant-General had forwarded these returns with his recommendation. If we found that all these points were satisfactory, we should then be prepared to "sail for" the Department.

Saturday's Official Gazette contains the appointment of Capt. Henry Streatfield, Grenadier Guards, to be secretary and military secretary to the Governor-General of Canada, vice the Viscount Melgund, resigned. Capt. Streatfield, who has been on His Excellency's staff since the beginning of his term of office, is deservedly popular throughout the Dominion, and his appointment will give general satisfaction.

#### REFLECTIONS ON UNIFORM.—111.

The next article of uniform to be considered is the head dress, and, simple as it may seem to wear a cap, there are many officers who are either totally ignorant, or very careless, about this part of their dress, for we often meet an otherwise well-dressed officer with his busby or helmet tilted to one side, or so small that it will not come down low enough by an inch or more; while the drooping peak forage cap is seen canted off the forehead, instead of coming down so that a finger can barely be inserted between the peak and the nose. The glengarry and the round forage cap of the cavalry, artillery and rifles, of course, must be worn on the side of the head, and look abominally unless carefully so adjusted. Another little matter must not be forgotten, and that is the chin strap, which many officers think entirely unnecessary with the forage cap, keeping it coiled up in the crown instead of always wearing it under the chin, or with the full dress chains hooked up as if intended for ornament only; many of us, no doubt, have seen the appearance of a parade in heavy marching order spoiled by officers and men having their chin chains hooked up; a very trifling matter, some will say; but it is only by attention to trifles that the standing of a regiment can be kept up, and if these are attended to matters of more importance will take care of themselves.

Trousers are too often made of inferior cloth, and a further mistake is having them cut in fashionable style; they should neither be too tight nor too loose, and should fit neatly over the boot. Mounted officers are too often careless about breeches, and it is no uncommon thing to see these articles made from old trousers, with no fit at all; and—horror of horrors—the writer once saw a major on regimental parade with trousers tucked into his boots. Here is another item to reflect on—boots—we see officers wearing all kinds of styles, from a low shoe to an elastic side; while Wellingtons are the proper thing; a good laced shooting boot always looks well and is the best for marching; mounted officers also are too often satisfied with a common cow-hide boot for riding,

instead of those with regulation patent leather legs.

Now perhaps a little reflection on the subject of accourrements, &c., may do some good, and first comes the sash. Does anyone know why this article should be worn? Of course we know why it was first adopted, and the use it was put to, but now-a-days it is hard to find out why it should be worn except as a useless badge. A silk sash, moreover, as worn by most militia officers, is very unsightly. To look at all well it should be folded neatly over a red leather lining about four inches wide. Some infantry corps have already discarded it (except for full dress, when the gold sash is worn), and have adopted the cross belt and field glass case, and while this makes the officers look more uniform and like the men, it is very uncomfortable on a hot day, being tight over the chest and drawing the perspiration through the tunic, and is likewise inconvenient if a great coat has to be worn over it; the field glass case is, however, of infinitely more use than the pouch of cavalry, artillery, rifles, &c., which contains nothing, and the use of which nobody knows. Sword belts come next on our list, and are a subject of much vexation to commanding officers, who wish to see those under their command turn our properly dressed; dirty belts, with leather cracked, no waist plates, and the slings so long that the sword drags along as if it did not belong to the wearer, are seen every day, and then the sword itself, with its scabbard very often dirty, battered or entirely unburnished, and the wearer feeling supremely happy if he can discover one of his men with a dirty rifle or unburnished buttons. Oh! why do such officers disgrace the Queen's uniform? Nor must we forget sword knots, which are worn by officers, who should know better, in all sorts of ways and of all kinds; gold, silver, or buff, without regard to the rest of their uniform. Some will say gloves are of no importance, and any kind will do; well, they are important enough to have a place in the dress regulations, which specify that white buck or leather shall be worn, and officers in the face of this are perfectly contented to wear filthy kids, which once were white, or if they do wear buck or deerskin, have them pipeclayed only on very special occasions.

A very few words on the subject of mess dress will suffice, as this is generally correctly worn, perhaps because there is some ease and comfort in it, but still there are mistakes made, and some are not sufficiently particular about the fit of their trousers round the seat, or do not wear the proper collar or black necktie; the regulations lately published allowing officers of infantry to wear gold lace trousers with mess jacket at balls and dances is a good one, putting them on a par with other branches of the service, and is a privilege which even officers of the army do not enjoy; the mess jacket is certainly the best uniform for a dance, as none who try dancing in a tunic are anxious to repeat the experiment.

The principal articles of uniform have now been touched upon, and the faults in the wearing been pointed out, and only one or two other matters remain to be reviewed; one is the habit many officers have of wearing watch chains and trinkets outside of uniform, contrary to regulations; another is to carry the handkerchief stuffed half in and half out of the breast of the tunic or jacket, which not only looks unsoldierlike, but spoils the look of the garment; the handkerchief carried in the sleeve is always easily got at, and is not noticed; again, why will officers persist in wearing civilian overcoats with uniform, or allow themselves to be seen in public dressed partly in uniform? It looks bad enough for an officer to wear a private's greatcoat, but infinitely worse for him to be seen with a civilian covering; if the weather is cold an extra shirt will make up the difference, and if wet—well, a regulation waterproof costs comparatively little, and every officer should have one.

Some remarks in these reflections may hit certain officers hard, but if they have any pride in themselves as officers they will take all in good part and endeavor to improve their own appearance and keep up the standing of the regiment and service to which they belong, and if these remarks should be means of making even the slightest improvement in the dress of a few officers of the Canadian Militia, the writer will teel that he has done some good in elevating the standard of the force in which he takes the deepest interest.

In conclusion, a word of advice to new officers, or those wishing to obtain an outfit, may not be out of season; firstly, do not buy secondhand uniform, you will be sorry only once, and that will be always, and you can very seldom obtain a good fit; secondly, buy everything of the very best, which will cost a little more, but last much longer, and keep in better order; thirdly, do not employ a tailor unless he is a bona fide military tailor, with the dress regulations thoroughly up, understanding the regulation cut, which very few tailors on this side of the water do, though there may be some. Most of them cut a tunic like an ordinary coat, with no style or fit, while a good tailor will guarantee satisfaction if the proper measure be sent; and, lastly, procure everything that is necessary for an officer to have, and do not be above asking other and older members of your corps how to wear the different articles and accontrements, so that you will never turn out dressed in a manner to bring the slightest discredit on the "noblest service" to which you have the honor to belong; remembering that a slovenly officer not only calls down ridicule on his own head, but also on his regiment and the militia in general. GRENADE.

#### NOTIONS OF A NOODLE.-IX.

"DEAR MISTY, -- Let us go on with the officers. We have the patrol jacket as a supposed easy-going garment for moments of relaxation, but unfortunately it is little better than the tunic; there is noththing easy about it, not even the great rows of olivets, or buttons and braiding, which, however, pile up the pounds and ounces on the marching subaltern. The only serviceable jacket we had in the way of uniform was the serge, which really is not a recognized dress, but rather a regimental affair, and those fortunate enough to possess them soon found their value. As a proof of the universal unfitness of the regulation jackets most of the officers of Gen. Middleton's column availed themselves of the wise latitude allowed in the way of dress, and consequently purchased ordinary pea-jackets, or other appropriate garments for the work. In the other columns I believe a stricter course was pursued, which certainly must have diminished the comfort of all ranks. I am quite convinced that if we could have done our fighting in the oat-bag caps, brown holland jumpers, and grey woollen jackets, that were later issued, the rebels would have suffered more, and many a man now in his grave, or a cripple for life, would be alive or well to-day, relating the story of Riel's rebellion. Another affliction which the idiotic desire of imitation forces us to bear is the conspicuous color of our uniforms.

"I cannot close this letter without enumerating the different articles of uniform required by an officer in the militia before he is properly fitted out. Tunic, patrol jacket, mess uniform, serge jacket, full dress belts, undress belts, helmet, gold lace forage cap, field service forage cap. This long list of things, which includes all that a regular officer needs, means money. The outlay necessary to procure all this is considered a heavy one, even for them, who, as professional soldiers, are bound to furnish themselves with everything that regulation lays down. How absurd it appears, then, that the amateur work of our militia, especially in a country where money is not too plentiful, should call our upon officers to so largely draw upon their bank account, as the above long list compels him to do. To my mind it smacks of a most shoddy style of imitation. Amateurs in other callings curtail their expenses within the bounds of the requirements necessary to their restricted practice. We, however, maintain that no corps is complete unless equipped in uniform like the Imperial troops, and when some of the country corps turn out officers,

not quite as nice as should be, we rush off and declare them inefficient, or ridicule their attempts at wearing such unnatural clothing as the uniform is to them, who have acquired the habit of working in workmanlike garments. I can heartily sympathize with many an officer, suddenly shoved into a tunic or patrol jacket, made by some local tailor. He certainly looks queer, but whose fault is it? It is the fault of our system that dictates the wearing of a garment that cannot easily be made in this country. We all know that to get them constructed as they should be many send to England. Does this suit Canada? or the Canadian country gentlemen farmers? far away the best men we have for fighting, which I hold to be an important consideration. We, who rejoice in our city life, may come very close to our Imperial brothers in nice clothes, but once in the field the boot is on the other leg, and we look the scarecrows. Then again we hear complaints about mixed styles of dress, no two corps are alike; it is hopeless to determine what is correct. How can it be otherwise, where in each corps there are many dresses; one has a tunic, another possesses a patrol, another will scrape through a camp with an old serge, while, perhaps, some moneyed man, vain, anxious to do right, or wishing to outstrip his brother officers, gets a mess jacket, or full dress belts, and yet we wonder at the diversity of dress. Again, clothes are still in existence purchased by time-honored officers away back in the dark ages; and as ever since then we have been steadily following the almost yearly changes in the outfit of the British Army, and as officers have not the means for altering, nor the knowledge of what such alterations are, they leave them alone, and so there we are again. It is all very well to find fault with the country officers, but reflect for one moment on the price of and the difficulty of obtaining a piece of gold lace or regulation braid. How different would be the comfort and what a vast change for the better, as far as utility is concerned, if we had a good serviceable uniform that would not branch off into a dozen different jackets and sets of useless belts and other fittings. Something that could be made in this country, at a reasonable rate, and clearly defined by our local regulations, which should stand alone as the authority for dress and equipment of the militia. As matters now stand we waver between two sets of regulations and which to adhere to is difficult to say. At present I venture to state the man. does not exist who can explain which is right and which is wrong on almost any question of uniform. Our system of uniform is disgraceful in many cases, no doubt, but as long as we go on the servile imitation of Imperial regiments because we are foolish enough to call ourselves by the same regimental names, so long will we continue to be a laughing stock to the professional soldier, as he observes us aping what as militia we never can attain. If the plan of shaping a course for ourselves. in a dress within our means and applicable to our duties, were adopted, we would have uniformity, which in itself would be a gigantic stride for the good of the force. And if we went as far as remodelling with a view of making us workmanlike in other ways, we would find ourselves much more useful in the field and a firmer prop to the British Empire than we are st present. To the young man who joins the militia for the object only of arraying himself in all the trappings which I find so useless, this will not appear a palatable lecture, but those who serve their country for a higher reason may, I hope, find something reasonable in what you, my dear Misty, consider the result of a disordered intellect, The object of every corps with any profession to efficiency, is, to mimic dress and titles of some regiment of the line or other branch of the Imperial service. It is all very pretty and foolish, but when the call for work comes some day, what idiots we suddenly discover ourselves to be, decked out as 'Highlanders,' or 'Guards,' or Lord knows what other notion, in our vain endeavor to look like something we never can be, instead of sensibly getting into an outfit within our means, controlled by our own regulations and requirements, and above all, suited for the variable nature of our climate, which it does not require a Solomon to discover, is hardly in keeping with the 'bear skin' of the Guards, or the 'bare skin' of the would-be Highlander."

#### PERSONALS.

Lieut.-Col. J. Russell Armstrong, commanding the New Brunswick Brigade of Garrison Artillery, has been gazetted aide-de-camp to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick.

Lieut. Skinner, of the Royal Sussex Regiment, a graduate of the R.M.C., and son of the commander of the 13th Battalion, has been ordered from England to the Soudan with his corps.

The 49th regiment, which served in Canada during the war of 1812, has been ordered to Halifax. The "Green Tigers" of Queenston heights and Beaver Dam should get a welcome from the people of Ontario, whose houses they guarded.—Montreal Witness.

All right, but it may be interesting to know how many in the regiment now were in it in 1812.—London Advertiser.

#### SYLLABUS FOR THE MILITARY SCHOOLS.—Continued.

#### Artillery-Long Course.

(This should have appeared before Infantry Subjects.)

Officers and N.C. officers belonging to the Regiment or who, being attached for instruction and having obtained a "Short Course" certificate are permitted to remain for a "Long Course" of instruction, will be required in the first instance to attend a Short Course of Instruction in whichever branch of the Artillery service they have not previously received instruction.

They will, if officers, be required to attend the special course of instruction at the Royal Military College in Military Surveying and Engineering, Strategy, Tactics and Reconnaissance and Military Administration.

During this course they will be attached to the Royal School of

Artillery at Kingston.

All ranks will also be required to pass through such a course of instruction in all Artillery and Infantry drills and exercises, mounted and dismounted, as the possibilities of the School of Artillery to which they are attached will afford, and will be finally examined in all such drills and exercises.

The theoretical course of instruction will, besides a more extended course of lectures on Ammunition, Gunnery and Artillery, Tactics, Military Law, Queen's and Militia Regulations, Standing Orders and Interior Economy, and as an additional subject Signalling may be taken up with advantage.

#### SYLLABUS FOR LONG COURSE -THEORETICAL.

Ammunition.—General construction and use of all Ammunition used for the ordnance at the station, 100 marks.

Material.—Description and construction of Service ordnauce, Carriages, Platforms, Field Equipments and Artillery material, &c., 100 marks.

Gannery .- Sighting. Rifling. Artillery fire-its uses and Employment, Range finding &c., 100 marks.

Interior Economy.—R. and O. for the Militia. Standing Orders.

Regimental Accounts, Official Correspondence, &c., 50 Marks.

Military Law--Army Act. Queen's Regulations. Powers of Courts Martial and of C.O., 50 marks.

Artillery (Field). -- Field Movements -- Choice of position. Advanced and Rear Guards. Escorts. Field Artillery Entrenchments, 50 marks.

Artillery (Garrison).—Principles regulating the efficiency of Artillery fire from Siege or Garrison Guns. Construction of Gun Batteries, Platforms, Magazines, &c., 50 marks.

For each of the above subjects, one paper of not less than 10 questions to be prepared by the commandant and answered by the candidate-under the General Rules for Examinations.

#### PRACTICAL.

Company Drill.—As detailed in Infantry Exercises, 50 marks. Battalion .- As detailed in Infantry Exercises, with the exception of movements in extended order, 50 marks.

Gun Drill.-Squad to be instructed by candidate in gun drill, on ground and traversing platform, and siege gun and field gun, 100 marks.

Shifting Ordnance (Field) .- Mounting and dismounting field gun, changing wheels and disabled ordnance, 100 marks.

Shifting Ordnance (Garrison) - Mounting and dismounting garrison and siege gun, parbuckling, skids and rollers, 100 marks.

Field Manauvres (Field). - As detailed in Manual, 75 marks. Sheers (Garrison). - As detailed in Mannal, 75 marks.

Riding and Sword Drill (Field) .- Field Artillery Candidates will be required to instruct, 100 marks.

Riding and Sword (Garrison). - Garrison Artillery will be required to show proficiency only, 50 marks.

Gyn Drill-Garrison Artillery only, 25 marks. Mortar Dvill.—Garrison Artillery only, 25 marks. Transporting Carriage .- Garrison Artillery only, 25 marks. Signaling-Voluntary, 50 marks.

#### Infantry Subjects-Short Course - Continued.

#### ENGINEERS.

Short Course -- Officers, N.C. Officers and Men.

The short course of Instruction for officers, non-commissioned officers and men of Engineer Militia will cover a period of 75 actual drill days, i. e. Sundays and days of joining and leaving exclusive.

The Infantry Instruction, including examination, will occupy 30 drill days. The Engineer Instruction 45 drill days.

For the present, Engineers will be attached to the Royal School of Artillery, Kingston, for Quarters, Rations, Pay and Discipline; and for Instruction in Infantry drill, Musketry, Regimental duty, Military Law and Interior Economy.

They will receive instruction in Military Engineering at the Royal

Military College.

The percentage of marks necessary for qualification for an Engineer Short Course certificate is the same as that specified for a Short Course Certificate for the several schools for the other branches of the service.

The course will commence annually on the first day of February.

In order that all may be present at the commencement of these courses, officers, non-commissioned officers and men will be required to report on the preceding day.

Should the 1st of February fall on Sunday, the course will com-

mence one day later.

The names of Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and men desiring to attend these courses, will be forwarded to the Commandants of Royal School of Artillery and Royal Military College, not less than 14 days prior to the day on which the course commences.

Officers, non-commissioned officers and men of Engineers will be relieved from all other military duty on the days assigned for instruction in Military Engineering at the Royal Military College, and all applications for leave on such days must be approved by the Commandant of that institution.

The Course of Instruction in Infantry drills at Royal School of Artillery, Kingston, will be as follows :-

Squad drill, 5 days; Rifle Exercises, 8 days; Company drill, 5 days; Regimental duties, 12 days.

Officers will also be instructed in the Sword Exercise.

SYLLABUS OF SHORT COURSE IN MILITARY ENGINEERING.

(45 days of 6 hours each.)

Section 1.—Drawing.

Use of instruments, simple geometrical drawing, simple scales, reading plans.

Section 2.—Entrenching.

Objects and use of Fortification, principles of defence, different kinds of fire arms in use and their penetration, choice of positions, clearing ground.

Hasty entrenchments, cover for shooting line, supports and

reserves; cover for guns.

Improvised defences, defence of walls, cuttings, embankments, hedges, fences, houses, villages and woods, stockades, block-houses,

Obstacles, rules for their use and construction, abatis, entanglements, military pits, stakes, palisades, fraises, chevaux-de-frise, barricades, &c.

Revetments, their use and method of construction, hurdle work, planks, logs, sods, sand-bags, gabions, fascines, miscellaneous.

Field works, profile, names of parts, their objects and uses, profiling; rules of trace and profile; garrison, defilade, details of works; blindages, traverses, splinter proof cover, magazines, embrasuces, barbettes, caponiers, flanks, entrances, gates.

#### Section 3.—Communications and Camping.

Construction, repair and demolition of roads, railways, &c. Selection of sites for camps. Bivouacs, huts, thatching, straw-mats, water supply, field filters, field kitchens and ovens; latrines.

Section 4.—Bridging.

Cordage, knotting, lashing, use of spars, derricks, sheers, gyns. Trestle, lock, and floating bridges; bridging expedients.

Section 5.—Explosives.

Hasty demolitions; use of gunpowder, gun cotton, dynamite, Bickford's fuze, Bickford's instantaneous fuze, powder hose, portfire, quickmatch, &c.

Section 6.-Siege Works.

Execution of batteries, magazines, parallels, saps; laying platforms. Section 7.—Miscellaneous.

Brushwood; its use; cutting brushwood, construction of hurdles, fascines, gabions, pickets.

Timber, its uses; splinter proofs, frames, sheeting, mining frames and cases, &c., platforms.

Field geometry and use of field level. Boning and levelling, taking sections, laying out slopes. Working parties; deployment and supervision; civil labour; tasks,

reliafs, &c. Tools.

Tracing works from plans.

As much work as possible will be executed full size, the remainder will be done model size. All will be dealt with in lectures.

The carrying out of the full course will necessarily be dependent on the strength of the class and on the weather. The practical portion of the work will be done equally by officers, N.C.O. and men.

The officers will receive theoretical instruction of a more advanced nature and will be required to work out simple projects.

#### LONG COURSE-OFFICERS.

This course must be taken during the period assigned for instruction, in Military Engineering at Royal Military College, i.c.: between 1st February and 10th June.

The qualification necessary prior to commencing Long Course is

the possession of a Short Course Engineer Certificate Grade A.

The qualification to entitle to a Long Course Engineer certificate is, to qualify in the manner and subjects specified as necessary for Long Course Certificate for all arms, with the exception that the course of Military Engineering will be special, viz.: that herein defined in Syllabus for Long Course Officers of Engineers.

The percentage of marks necessary for qualification will be the same as specified for R.M.C. Long Course for all branches of service.

LONG COURSE-N. C. OFFICERS AND MEN.

This course must be taken between 1st February and 30th April. The qualification necessary prior to commencing a Long Course, is the possession of a Short Course Engineer Certificate Grade B.

The qualification to entitle to a Long Course Engineer Certificate is, to qualify in the course specified in the Syllabus of Instruction.

The percentage of marks necessary for qualification will be the same as for Short Course.

SYLLABUS FOR LONG COURSE IN MILITARY ENGINEERING.

#### (45 days of 6 hours each.)

Those undergoing a Long Course will, as far as is practicable, be afforded an opportunity of renewing their knowledge of the "Short Course" work, and will be afforded all available opportunities of supervising and laying out work. Portions of the "Short Course" work will be done again in greater detail, and also, in addition the following sections:

#### Section 1.—Drawing.

Scales; drawing plans; plotting; calculating parapets; conventional signs; reading maps.

Section 2.—Entrenching.

Field works with special regard to details.

Defence of posts and positions.

Use of Fortification by attack, clearing the way, removing and surmounting obstacles, crossing ditches, occupying captured works, entrenching when attack is checked, &c.

Section 3.—Communication and Camping.

Examining and reporting on roads, railway, etc. Use of Norton's tube well.

#### Section 4.—Bridging.

Improvised bridges; sling bridges; suspension bridges; railway bridges; strength of materials.

#### Section 5.—Explosives.

Making joints in wires and cables; use of the service. Frictional Electric Machines for firing charges (Tenison and Quantity Dynamos); simple testing; connecting up charges; service electrical fuzes and detonators; deliberate demolitions.

#### Section 6.—Siege Works.

"Short Course" work in greater detail, with special reference to the rules for design, excenting, tracing, &c., &c.

Mining with "cases," and "frames" and "sheeting"; loaning and tamping mines; ventilation and lighting of mines; charges of mines.

The Close Attack—The Engineer Park.

#### Section 7.—Miscellaneous.

Boning and levelling; taking sections; setting out slopes - in greater detail.

Supervision of labour; charge of stores; estimating and drawing tools and materials.

Tracing by night.

#### Section 8.—Special.

The rudiments of Permanent Fortification.

Officers will receive more advanced "theoretical" instruction than the N.C. officers and men.

(To be Continued.)

#### THE EXAMPLE OF OUR MILITARY COLLEGE.

The recent success in the British army of graduates of the Royal Military College, Kingston, has prompted the Agent-General of Victoria to send a report upon the college to his Government, with suggestions for the establishment of a similiar institution in Australia. learn from India and the Colonies that :- "One of the recommendations of the Defence Commission, which sat at Sydney about four years ago, was that a federal military school should be established upon the same lines as the Canadian institution, in some central position, but, so far, most of the Australian colonies have taken steps in the direction of establishing smaller separate colleges. Now, however, that the Australasian Federal Council is about to meet, the subject ought to be dealt with in a comprehensive manner. The opportunity of doing so is all the greater, seeing that Colonel Hewitt, who organized and conducted the Canadian Institution, is at the present time seeking some military appointment in the Australian Colonies."-Montreal Gazette.

Sir Andrew Clarke, of the British War Office, writing to the Minister of Defence, Victoria, urging the establishment of a Military College for the Colony, refers in the highest terms to the character of the training given at the Royal Military College, Kingston, and concludes as follows:—"I regard the Canadian Military College as one of the best of its class in the world. The training and results are in every way of a high order, and the Americans themselves, I understand, say better than at West Point. There is no reason why Australia should not have a Military College equally good. It only requires to be started, and now seems as favourable an opportunity as is likely to occur."-Ottawa Citizen.

#### FORMATION FOR ATTACK.

(PROPOSED BY CAPT, FRED. LYDON, R.S.)
On the command "Form for Attack," Company Commanders

will give the word "Fours Deep."

On the command "Extend for Attack," Company Commanders will give the word to their front ranks (on two front ranks of fours), "Advance," and when clear, "Four paces from Right, Centre or Left, extend," and continue to advance till halted by the Commander.

The Captain and Lett Guide will move with the fighting line. The Right or Senior Guide will command the rear rank (or two rear ranks of fours), which will act as support to their front rank, covering the centre of their fighting line at about 150 yards. The Commander of Supports to be in front. The Supports to move only on the word of their Commanders.

On the command "Commence Firing," the rear rank men of the fighting line will move up on the left of their front (or proper right file), and divide the distance. Firing to be under the control of Section

When advancing firing, the Fighting Line will advance in a general line by short rushes, firing by alternate files, unless otherwise ordered by Section Commanders. When retiring and firing, the men will retire by alternate files, the advanced rank holding their ground till the retiring rank halts and is ready to covor their retreat. When they will fire, turn to the right-about, and move in double time straight to the rear, taking up the quick time as they pass through the second rank.

On the command "Reinforce," the Supports will get the word "Advance, Four paces from the Centre, Extend," the whole breaking into double time till they reach the fighting line, each man placing himself on the left of his own front rank man, and taking up the fire.

If this movement is correctly done, the line will stand rank entire, front and rear rank man alternately.

If the intention is to seize a position, the command will be "LINE WILL ADVANCE—QUICK MARCH." The line will step off, the front rank men only stepping a full pace, the rear rank men stepping short paces, and the whole line closing on the centre, shouldering arms as they step off. The Guides and Markers taking their places in line.

This will bring the battalion into its proper position as a battalion in line, and ready for any change of front that might be thought

On the word "PREPARE TO CHARGE," the front rank will "Trail

Arms." The rear rank men will "Slope Arms."

On the command "Charge," the front rank will bring their rifles to the "Charge," the whole line breaking into double time.

On the word "Halt," the line will "Halt" and "Shoulder Arms."

A six Company Battalion in line will extend. Nos. 1 and 5 from the left, Nos. 2 and 6 from the right, Nos. 3 and 4 form the reserve, the color party to move 150 yards in rear of the reserve. The flank supports to be wheeled outwards to protect the flanks.

When the Fighting Line is reinforced, the reserve should be moved up to support the flanks, and should be held ready to further reinforce

or prolong the fighting line.

The movement of extending for attack from column will be as above, except that No. 1 will extend from left, No. 2, 3, and 4 companies prolonging line to the left, Nos. 5 and 6 form reserve. As each company is told off, the company commanders will turn their company in the required direction, and as the company clears the column will incline towards the fighting line by the diagonal march, and as they clear the flank of the Company preceding them, will extend and prolong line, the men doubling up in line, the supports continuing to move to their place in rear of the centre in quick time.

As the object of this formation is to avoid as much as possible mixing up the companies, it might be better to use the reserves in prolonging the line to both flanks rather than throw them forward into the centre.

The fighting line will extend four paces, with six paces between flanks of companies. The supports and reserves will retain the four deep formation.

Officers will return their swords on the caution "Form for ATTACK." Mounted officers should dismount when satisfied their being mounted draws the enemy's fire.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

HONORS FOR THOSE WHO WERE AT THE FRONT.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

Sin,—"We who were at Batoche" certainly do not seek, as "Ottawa" scems to think, to deprive our less fortunate comrades of getting a medal; neither do we in the least wish to depreciate the valuable work done by those in our rear, especially the 7th, which perhaps had the worst luck and the hardest work of any, and which is as fine a regiment as there is in Canada, or the G.G.B.G., which did its duty so well and without a grumble, or Lieut.-Col.[O] Brien's fine Battallon, or any of our other comrades, but as in my last I showed logically that we are entitled to a clasp for Batoche, we want to know authoritively why we are not to

I think "Firebag's" proposal to score C. P. R. on the "Montreal Gatling Artillery" medals is likely to lead to ill-feeling. That is a wonderfully fine regiment, in spite of their "Gatlings," but I do not see how they expect the same medal, for though I am sure they would have given a good account of themselves had they been lucky enough to get to the front, they did not leave Montreal until the fighting was over and travelled up in sleepers, etc., all the way to Regins, where they encamped for a short time with every luxury (report says), tents nicely floored, Gatlings, etc., etc., and you might as well give a medal to the "Vica." who camped in Montreal, or the Toronto Artillery who were quartered in the fort in Toronto, or any regiments which performed their usual annual drill or went into a Brigade Camp.

I am surprised that "Ottawa" should profess such ignorance and attempt in the most ungenerous way to put the blame for the non-issue of clasps on the Imperial Government. Does he also attempt to blame the Imperial Government for the non-issue of brevet promotions, etc.? It is a most ungrateful attempt upon his part. He cannot really be in ignorance of the fact that the fault lies neither with the General nor the Imperial Government.

My idea is that all who made the North-west passage, i.e. endured the hard-ships of the north shore, or, say, left their headquarters before the 24th April, should get the medal, and those who were under fire should get a clasp, with a special clasp for Batoche, and I think you will find the majority agree with

THE ODD FILE.

#### IS THE BAYONET'S DAY PAST?

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

Sir,-In a late issue of your paper I read that "Noodle" proposes to abolish the bayonet as a useless encumbrance in Indian warfare. In support of his argument he quotes the experience of the scouts in the recent rebellion, who were not armed with the bayonet. Perhaps he will pardon my saying that the scouts' experience proves nothing, because, firstly, their business was scouting and not hand-to-hand fighting, and secondly, the heart of the enemy was not in his work.

"Noodle," judging from the conclusion of his "Notions" No. 6, holds in undisguised contempt the trifling experience of the British Army in all parts of the world, so I will say nothing thereon, but will confine myself to the subject of

warfare with the savages of this continent.

Assuming that the account gathered from Sioux who were present at and assisted in the massacre of Custer's command is substantially correct, viz., that the Indians pulled the soldiers off their horses and knocked them on the head with their ! coup" sticks, I wonder what the aforesaid scouts would have done if they, or any of them, had been similarly attacked by a superior force of determined men.

The Toronto Mail of the 24th inst., reports that a detachment of U. S. Troops were surprised in New Mexico by Apaches, who poured in a murderous fire and apparently charged, for we read—"A desperate hand-to-hand encounter took place, in which some officers and men were killed," etc., etc.

It would seem, therefore, that in the human game of hare and hound the Indians are not always content to represent the hare, and I should like to ask "Noodle" to settle a question which has troubled me a good deal. Supposing he were a private in an Intantry detachment escorting a convoy of waggons through

the Eagle Hills (for instance) and that Poundmaker's Indians poured in a murderous fire and charged, how would he, having no bayonet, defend himself in a hand-to hand fight?

Are we to suppose that the Canadian Indians are ignorant of the tactics and success of the Sioux in the Custer affair and that they are incapable of seeing that when man meets man a war club is a better weapon than an empty barrel?

Prophets told us long ago that the days of bayonet charges were over-that

the day for Cavalry was past; how have these predictions been verified?

Would "Noodle" have us believe that the fighting record of the great Blackfoot nation justifies us in assuming that they would be unable to see and seize their opportunity? But I will refrain from trespassing further upon your space.

N. W. T., 30th Dec., 1885.

#### A PLEA FOR THE CANTEEN TIN.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

Sin,-On reading the "Notions of a Noodle" in your issue of 22nd Dec., I could not restrain myself from replying to the criticisms contained therein on what I considered an exceedingly useful article of equipment during the late campaign, viz, the canteen The writer very sensibly asks for a frying-pan when he goes on active service, and in the same article informs us that every sensible soldier throws away the "inside scooper with a handle" of his canteen at the first opportunity. Now the very best possible use that scooper can be put to is to transform it into a frying-pan, and the men of my company, at least, found this out at an early day; for no sooner were the fires lighted than almost every man had his scooper on the cool-, and in a few minutes had his bacon or "tack" fried to his liking or his canned beef nicely warmed, and this all independent of the company cook, whose only duty seemed to be to make tea for his

Again, no troops shou'd, in my estimation ever begin a campaign without "water bottles" to drink from when on the march, and if so provided there will be no necessity for making use of the canteen for that purpose, though many and many a time did I use that despised scooper to dip me up a drink from the rairie water holes or muddy Saskatchewan.

In conclusion, I would beg Noodle to spare the canteen when much of the admittedly uscless equipage of the modern soldier is discarded by him.

Norwood, Dec. 28th, 1885.

FRED. H. BRENNAN Lieut. Midland.

#### REGIMENTAL NOTES.

(We wish to publish information respecting all the doings of all corps. Will the officers interested, particularly at a distance, assist us by having news relating to their corps promptly forwarded?

Sarnia.—Fifty pounds sterling worth of new instruments for the 27th Batt. band arrived out from England last week. They are of Besson & Co.'s make and consist of four B flat clarionets, two B tenor slide trombones, and one three stringed double bass. When these instruments are placed in the hands of members the band will number about fifty and be as fully equipped as any in Canada. -Observer.

WINNIPEG -Sergt.-Major Watson will likely get the appointment of caretaker of the new drill shed. No better man can be had. He rendered gallant service "at the front." -- Winnipeg Evening News.

LONDON, Ont.—Col. Williams has been reinstated to the command of the 7th Fusiliers, and our local military force is once more on a peace footing.

#### AMUSEMENTS.

(If the active organizers of regimental games, company clubs, and similar wister occupations for the militia will forward us accounts of their doings we will gladly publish them. This, we hope, will have the good result of encouraging the organization of similar clubs where there are none at present.)

Southampton.—One of the chief attractions at the Foresters' concert here on Wednesdary week was the presence of No. 2 and 3 companies of "General Middleon's Brigade," composed of boys from 7 to 12 years of age, in uniform dress, and under the command of Lieut W. J. Holden. The boys, numbering twenty-five, went through many difficult evolutions in a manner that surprised all, though there were some old veterans amongst the spectators Lieut. Holden and the boys were frequently applauded while they were going through their drill, which gave good proof of their careful and thorough training.

BRANTFORD.—The GAZETTE on the 15th published a description of the new mess-rooms of the Dufferin rifles. These were formally opened on the 29th by an "at home" at which about three hundred guests attended, and which passed off most successfully.

Among the Military guests present were Major Smith and Lieut. Pone, of the 7th London; Capt. Macqueen, 22nd Oxford Rifles, Woodstock; Major Bond, Prince of Wales Rifles, Montreal, and Capt. Loyd Jones, Burford Cavalry Troop.

The handsome rooms had been appropriatily decorated for the occasion and every detail of arrangement was perfectly carried out. The guests were received by Lieut.-Col. Jones, Surgeon Harris, Capt. McMichael, Capt. Stratford, and others.

The rooms presented a delightfully gay appearance. The massive gilded asaliers were assisted in casting brilliancy over the scene by quaint silver candelabra. A star of glistening short swords upon a back ground of tlack, radia-

ting from a centre on which the letters "D. R" formed of helmet spikes stood out in bold relief, was the first ornamentation to strike the eye as having been made for special effect; and indeed it was the only added decoration to those which constantly hang upon the walls. Upon the piane, and directly beneath the star above referred to, were statuettes of Lord Wolsely and Gen. Gordon.

The band of the regiment was stationed in the band room above the Orderly Rooms, and discoursed a programme of excellent music during the evening, the distance lending an added charm to the music as it came subdued and softened to add its quota to the hum which arose from the hundreds of voices present. The programme was varied by songs from Miss Robinson, Miss Foster, and Lieuts. Sweet and McGlashan, and piano solos by Prof. Garratt. Refreshments were served in a prettily decorated room where tables were handsomely spread.

Toronto.—The sergeants' mess room in the New Garrison presented a pleasing appearance on the last night of the old year. The Scotch members of it had in a "canny" way prepared a spread for their comrades and invited the non-commissioned officers of the school, together with a few personal friends, to be present. The party numbered about thirty, and a pleasanter gathering it would be hard to find anywhere at this festive season. The well-known form of Staff-Sergeant Swanson occupied the chair, Sergeant Davis being in the vice-chair. On the right of the chairman was Sergeant-Major Spackman, who has served in the Imperial service and who was one of those wounded at Cut-Knife. there were Colour-Sergeant Crean, of the Queen's Own, who is at present attached to "C" Company for instruction; Armourer-Sergeant Oldbury, of the Queen's Own; Mr. Mar in, etc. There were only four toasts, namely:—"The Queen," Our invited guests," "The war correspondents," who had been through the North-west campaign, with its marches, bivouacs and battles, with the members of "C" Company, and "Our fallen comrades." It is quite unnecessary to say that the toasts were honoured with all a soldier's enthusiasm. Round that board were men who had faced death on the battlefield, and had upheld the honour of the good old flag in the land of the setting sun. And they "tought their battles o'er again" while scated round the festive board in their own comfortable quarters. The commandant, Col. Otter, who is always pleased to see the boys enjoying themselves, granted leave to the non-commissioned officers to continue their festivities beyond the regulation hour, and this favour was duly appreciated by every one of them. Songs, speeches and toasts followed each other in rapid succession until the toast "Our fallen comrades" was proposed by the chairman. This was drunk in solemn silence. A pleasing incident of the evening was the presentation by the chairman, on behalf of Colour-Sergeant Cooper, who was severely wounded at Cut Knife, of an oil painting of himself to the non-commissioned officers of "C" Company. It is needless to say that they duly appreciated this valuable present from their old comrade-in-arms. At five minutes to midnight the party repaired to the parade opposite Col. Otter's quarters, and sang "Auld Lang Syne," after which they dispersed. Several members of "C" Company's band volunteered their services for the evening and did much towards the enjoyment of the party.-Mail.

#### GLEANINGS.

A correspondent of the Quebec Chronicle, referring to the letter which appeared in our issue of the 22nd, respecting the achievements of the 49th Regiment in Canada, adds the following particulars as to the fight at Crystler's farm from the records of an eye witness: that being the action where their gallant commander, Lieut.-Col. Plenderleath, was twice severely wounded and had three horses shot under him. In recognition of his bravery and services he was made C.B. and the recipient of the gold medal for "Crystler's Farm."

Colonel Harvy, A.G., ordered Lieut. Col. Plenderleath to charge the enemy. At the time this order was given they were separated from the enemy by about 120 yards of ploughed, heavy, wet ground, intersected by two parallel snake fences that had to be pulled down. As they advanced their progress was much retarded and not a shot was fired to cover them. Consequently, there being nothing to disconcert the enemy's fire, it was well directed from riflemen and artillery, and in the short space of ten minutes, or even less, they lost in killed and wounded cleven officers out of eighteen, and men in proportion, and had it not been for the intutive faculty of the gallant Colonel Plenderteath, who redeemed the error that had been caused by the Adjutant-General's inexperience in field movements, a greater disaster might have occurred. The following is the list of officers: Killed—Armstrong, Lorimier, Nairne. Wounded—Plenderleath, Bastley, Richmond, Clanse, Holland, Morton, Johnston, Jones. Not Hut—Ormond, Ellis Sewell, Danford, Memrow, Westrap, Whitewick.

The late Lieut.-Col. Plenderleath was well known to many old residents

both in Quebec and Hamilton, Ont.; and also Col. John Sewell, another of the old veterans of that day, belonging to that regiment. The former is closely allied to Charles V. M. Temple, of the Q. O. Canadian Hussars, Quebec, and who has furnished Mr. J. M. Lemoine, the well-known Archeologist, with a portfolio containing many letters written by Col. Plenderleath in the field, as well as many clippings from the Times and military papers of that date.

WINNIEG.—In the course of a speech in reply to the toast of the Army and Navy, at the medical students' dinner here, on the 22nd ult., Dr. Codd, of the Mounted Infantry School, said that he had now been seventeen years in the service of the Militia of Canada, and naturally had had some experience with hospital work, sergeant-dressers, etc., but he could honestly say that he never met with any showing such ability in their several positions of duty as the gentlemen attached to the Ambulance Corps and the assistances to the surgeons of the field force in the late campaign. "Several of those gentlemen," he continued, "are present here to-night. I am sure Dr. Orton, our late brigade-surgeon (I don't mean late in sense of duty, for he was always on deck morning, noon and night), will bear me out in this statement. I teel sure, gentlemen, the services rendered by these getlemen will not be forgotten by the Department or the Surgeons under whom they served."

Col. Fred C. Dennison, C.B., who accompanied Lord Wolseley's expedition last year, lectured on the 22nd before a large audience in Wesley church, Toronto, on ' Egy; t and the Soudan.'

TO THE QUEEN AND PRINCE OF WALES.

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Ottawa, May. 1885. B. CHAMBERLIN, Q. P.



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AND

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Plans and specification can be seen at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, and at the office of J. E. Belcher, Architect, Peterborough, on and after FRIDAY, the 18th day of December next.

Persons tendering are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied, and signed with their actual signatures. Tender for each building to be separate, and forms will be supplied for each.

to be separate, and torius will be supplied to each.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted bank cheque, made payable to the order of the Honourable the Minister of Public Works, equal to five per cent. of the amount of the tender, which will be forteited if the party decline to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or if he fail to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

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

By order,

A. GOBEH.

Necretary.

Department of Public Works, ) Ottawa, 7th December, 1885.

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Notice to Contractors.

CEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for the Welland Canal," will be received at this office until the arrival of the Eastern and Western mails on MONDAY, the 25th day of JANUARY next (1886), for raising the walls of the Locks, Weirs, &c., and increasing the height of the banks of that part of the Welland Canal between Port Dalhousic and Thorold, and for deepening the Summit Level between Thorold and Ramey's Bend, near Humberston.

The works, throughout, will be let in

The works, throughout, will be let in

Humberston.

The works, throughout, will be let in Sections.

Maps of the several localities, together with plans and descriptive specifications, can be seen at this office on and after MONDAY, the lith day of JANUARY next (1886), where printed forms of tender can be obtained. A like class of information relative to the works north of Allanburg will be furnished at the resident Engineer's Office, Thorold; and for works south of Allanburg, plans, specifications, &c., may be seen at the resident Engineer's Office, Walland.

Contractors are requested to bear in mind that tenders will not be considered unless made strictly in accordance with the printed forms, and, in the case of firms, except there are attached the actual signatures, the nature of the occupation and place of residence of each member of the same; and further, an accepted bank cheque for the sum of Two Thousand Dollars or more—according to the extent of the work on the section—must accompany the respective tenders, which sum shall be forfeited if the party tendering declines entering into contract for the works at the rates stated in the offer submitted.

The amount required in each case will be stated on the form of tender.

The cheque or money thus sent in will be returned to the respective parties whose

stated on the form of tender.

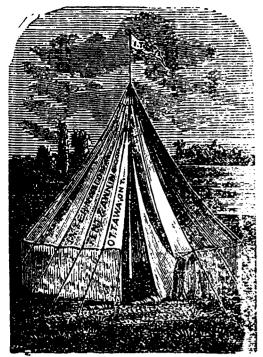
The cheque or money thus sent in will be returned to the respective parties whose tenders are not accepted.

This Department does not, however, bind itself to accept the lost or any tender.

By order,

A. P. BRADLEY,

Department of Railways and Canals, de Ottawa, 9th December, 1885



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