

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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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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## Comment and Criticism.

WE might have, and ought to have, fortified our arguments last week in favor of extra consideration for the officers of the permanent corps by quoting the opinion of the Major-General commanding upon the same point; however, it is not yet too late to do so. In his annual report to the Minister of Militia at the end of 1885, Sir Fred. Middleton remarks: "As the regulations now stand, an officer of the permanent force who has made soldiering his profession, giving up all other work and devoting himself to his duties, finds himself, on active service, or when called out in aid of the civil power, under the command of an officer of the militia force of the same rank, who has, perhaps, very little professional knowledge. Now, this, I think, ought not to be, for many reasons, and I therefore recommend that all officers of the permanent militia force shall rank senior to other militia officers of their own rank, in accordance with Imperial regulations on that point." One would think that the case was so plain as not to require much stating in order to insure remedial action.

ANOTHER change advocated in the same report it seems opportune to discuss now. The general says, just before ending his report: "I would wish to draw attention to the present system of paying certain sums for the instruction and drill of the regiments and companies, which seems to me to be open to objection, and I should recommend its being

reconsidered and altered, with a view to adding to the efficiency of the service. One arrangement appears to me very desirable, and that is that city regiments should have paid adjutants. These appointments to be for five years, subject to extension at the will of the minister. These adjutants would also act as musketry instructors." The general is not alone in this advocacy of the employment of paid adjutants for the city corps, for we know that many of the city commanding officers are anxious to see the change made.

THEY argue that in every city corps, where there is work of one kind or another to be done from one end of the year to the other, it is necessary that there should be an officer always with time at his disposal to do it, and to attend to any business of a regimental nature that may casually arise. This work at present has to be done in most cases by the commanding officer, which answers very well so long as the commanding officer happens to have plenty of time and leisure at his disposal, but in case he should be a professional or business man it stands to reason he could not devote the time to every detail of regimental work which is absolutely necessary in order to keep his corps in that state of efficiency in which he would wish to see it. A paid adjutant, on the other hand, could devote his whole time to his corps, as well as to the work of paymaster, which is now usually done by the commanding officer, and would always have this officer to consult with on regimental affairs. He could also, as the general suggests, look after the musketry instruction of the corps, and if necessary, supervise the quartermaster's stores and armory. In short, there is no end to the directions in which he could be advantageously utilized.

THERE seems too to be a good supply of excellent material ready to our hands for the position of paid adjutants in the form of graduates of the Royal Military College, who have received thorough military educations partly at the expense of the country, and who now find difficulty in finding employments in which their military education would be of use to them. If these young men were offered commissions as lieutenants, with some prospect of promotion after a reasonable length of satisfactory service, probably sufficient of them to meet all requirements would prefer the appointment to an Imperial commission.

NOW, as regards expense, this would not be so formidable an obstacle as appears at first sight, for in the first place the allowances now made for drill instruction could be diverted towards the pay of the adjutants, and many little items of expense, which are inseparable from the present system, would be obviated by having an officer always on duty. Moreover the adjutants would so greatly relieve the present strain on commanding officers that we doubt not these would gladly contribute in a slight degree to the cost of their maintenance. But if greater efficiency could be attained by having paid adjutants and musketry instructors, surely the country could afford the somewhat increased expenditure that would be involved. This whole matter is well worthy of serious consideration, and we should be glad to see parties interested discuss it at length in these columns.

A GENERAL order was issued on the 5th, giving details of the subjects and books required for the annual examinations of candidates to enter the Royal Military College, and the marks apportioned to each subject both in the obligatory and voluntary examinations; in this there are no changes from previous years, excepting the date for holding the examinations, which is the 14th day of June next. We hope when that time arrives to see a full class qualify to enter that excellent institution.

IN last week's regular general orders we find that Captain Perley, who has been now for some years on the Headquarter's Staff, has been promoted to a majority, a mark of appreciation of his many valuable services which we should have liked to see him get some years ago. In the 69th Batt., the adjutant, Captain Marshall, succeeds to the majority vacated by the retirement of Major Harris. These are the only changes above the ranks of company officers. In all there are nine new appointments, all unqualified, seven losses from various causes, and five promotions; this leaves a net gain of two commissions.

### Personal.

Lord Napier, of Magdala, has been appointed constable of the Tower of London, over the late Sir R. J. Dacres

Lieut. W. H. Forrest has been obliged to resign his commission in the Royal Rifles in consequence of having accepted an appointment in the C.P.R. service in British Columbia. We met him at Port Hammond in August, when he looked as if he was lonesome for the sight of a rifle range. Mr. Forrest will be well remembered as one of the crack shots of the Eighth, and has a record that may almost be called wonderful for so young a man. In 1883, he won the Dominion Grand Aggregate, and was first man on the Wimbledon team of 1884. His absence is universally regretted.

Captain Douglas, R.N.R., representing the Nordenfelt Machine Gun Co., has arrived in town from England with the intention of submitting his company's system for the approval of the Canadian Government. He has already had interviews with His Excellency the Governor-General the Major-General commanding, the Minister of Militia, the Comptroller of Mounted Police, and other officers interested in the matter, and is awaiting the arrival of a couple of guns of different patterns with which he will be able to show the practical merits of the system.

Major Perley, whose promotion appears in the last *Gazette*, has a long and honorable record in the militia. Towards the close of 1861, at the time of the Trent difficulty, he joined at St. John, N.B., as a gunner, the battery commanded by Captain (now Lt.-Col.) B. L. Peters. Shortly afterward he associated himself with the late Major Boyd in raising the New Brunswick company of engineers, and on 5th July, 1862, was gazetted as 1st lieutenant of it. Having removed to Nova Scotia, he resigned his position in the engineer company, and on the 18th September, 1863, became a captain in the 11th regiment of the Halifax county militia. This position he held until 1866, when, in consequence of removal to England, he was obliged to resign. On returning to St. John, in 1870, Mr. Perley entered and passed through the military School conducted by the 78th Highlanders, obtaining a second-class certificate on the 16th August, 1870. He then rejoined the N. B. Engineers as 2nd Lieut. Was promoted lieutenant 22nd Oct., 1872, and captain July, 1874, serving in command until 5th January, 1880, when he removed to Ottawa as Chief Engineer, D.P.W. Soon afterwards he was appointed engineer officer at headquarters. Major Perley was president of the N.B. Provincial Rifle Association during 1876-7-8; has represented N.B. on the council of the D.R.A. since 1875, and has been a member of the Executive Committee, D.R.A. since 1879. Since 1880 he has been a representative of the 4th military district on the council of the Ontario Rifle Association, and has been president of the Ottawa Rifle Club for some years. He was also a member of the board appointed by the Department of Militia and Defence, in 1883 and 1885, to enquire into and report on the cartridges manufactured at the government factory at Quebec. Major Perley's success as a marksman is too well known to need extended notice, and his unflagging energy and unselfish interest in all that pertains to advancing rifle shooting in the Dominion are household words. On three occasions he obtained a place on the Wimbledon team, but could not go. In 1884 he won the Governor-General's third prize, and was offered the command of the team of that year for Wimbledon, but was obliged to decline the honor. We hope that for many years to come Major Perley may continue his active interest in our rifle associations and competitions.

### Obituary.

LIEUT.-COLONEL WILLIAM ARTHURS, retired list, died at his residence, Toronto, on the 5th instant, at the comparatively early age of 54. He was a native of Toronto and was closely identified with the city throughout his life. He was educated in Upper Canada College, and in 1862 entered business as a member of the firm of Thomas & Arthurs, afterwards Arthurs & Co., one of the largest dry goods concerns in Toronto. Col. Arthurs was eminently successful as a merchant, his energy and ability bringing him quickly to the front. Nevertheless he found time to take an active interest in militia matters, and in 1863, joined the Queen's Own Rifles. He held the rank of captain in the regiment when the Fenian raid occurred in 1866, and won distinction during that affair, his pluck at Ridgeway being conspicuous. On the 18th March, 1881, he retired from the active force, retaining rank as Lieutenant-Colonel, having attained that rank by brevet on the 24th March, 1876. He was connected with the construction of the Credit Valley railway, and was a member of its Board of Directors. For two years he occupied the position of President of St. Andrew's Society. An active man always, he was interested in all kinds of athletic sports. For many years he was a member of the Ontario Lacrosse Club, and in the Athletic Club rooms, under the management of the late Col. Goodwin, he acquired considerable skill in the use of the foil, and became an athlete of no mean merit. To his interest in lacrosse was due, in a large measure, the rapid progress and wide popularity of the national game.

The funeral took place on Friday afternoon from his residence, 186 Richmond street west. The strong personal popularity of the dead man was shown by the immense number that turned out to pay their last respects to the memory of one whose whole life has been an exemplification of honest worth. From corner to corner both sides of the street were thronged with the best people of Toronto. A detachment of the Queen's Own Rifles, three companies, 150 strong, and the band, turned out in command of Col. Miller. Other officers present were Major Allen, Major Hamilton, Captains Thompson, Mason, Mutton and Murray. A number of ex-members, distinguished by the green badge and silver-crested maple leaf above it, also attended. Among them were Col. Otter, Major Dixon, Major Lee, Major Harris, Col. Gilmore, Captain Douglas, Capt. Boyd, Capt. Vandersmissen, Capt. G. M. Adam and Lieut. Fahey. The Grenadiers were represented by Capt. Manley and other officers not in uniform. The Governor-General's Body Guard also turned out. Col. G. T. Denison was present, though not in uniform. The military and band were simply present as an escort. There could not be a military funeral in consequence of the deceased not being on the active list at the time of his death. The short funeral service of the English Church was read by Canon Baldwin, and was followed by a short prayer by Rev. Dr. Poits. The body lay in a handsome casket, which was covered with floral offerings sent by his children, the members of the Q.O.R., the ex-members, and many other friends of the deceased. The pall-bearers were Col. Gilmore, Dr. Thorburn, W. Thomas, Alex. McNab, James Wright, John Ross, of St. Catherines, Kenneth Miller and Thomas McGaw. The funeral was one of the largest and most imposing that Toronto has seen in years, and was a fitting tribute to the memory of one who was respected and beloved by all who knew him.

### Orthoptics.

MESSRS CURTIS & SON write to the *Rifle* from London as follows:

*Editor of the Rifle:—*

We enclose a cutting taken from the *Volunteer Service Gazette*, dated Nov. 27th, 1886, purporting to be an extract from your paper, from which it appears that the use of Orthoptics is very little known amongst the shooting-men in the United States.

They are the invention of one Mr. J. J. Curtis, an old rifle-shot in the 1st Surrey rifle volunteers, of some twenty-six years' standing, who, about ten years since, found his eyesight failing a little, being then about forty-nine, causing a slight blur or mistiness to appear on the back sight of the rifle when firing, which no known optical instrument could remove without altering the appearance of the targets. After much research and experiment he invented the orthoptic, and found that they restored his sight to its primitive state, and showed out both sights and target perfectly clear and distinct; and at the present time, being in his sixtieth year, though he cannot read letters half an inch high without spectacles, can, when shooting with an orthoptic, see the sights of the rifle and the target as well as he could thirty years ago. In fact they suit any age, and either long or short sighted persons.

They have no focus like a glass lens (which has, and can be only used for a certain specified distance, according to the convexity or con-

cavity of the glass), but they simply concentrate the eyesight, and, by shutting out all unnecessary light, greatly increase the power of vision within the limit required for shooting, not only on the sights of the rifle but on the distant target.

It has been erroneously supposed that they somewhat strain the eyesight; but on using them, it will be found that they help to preserve and strengthen it.

They are much used in this and other countries by riflemen who have no defect in their vision, simply to protect the eyes from the sun when aiming; by these means the firer can see targets and sights clearly, even when the sun is apparently close to the edge of the target, which would be impossible without some such aid.

Referring to the cutting enclosed your correspondent is not quite correct in saying, "by using one of these arrangements all view of everything except the sights and targets is cut off." Now, it was this idea that caused them to be prohibited by our national rifle association, about six years ago, under the impression that they shut out the view of any danger-signal raised near the target from the sight of the person using them whilst taking aim. As a matter of fact, when the orthoptic aperture is close to the eye, as it should be to obtain the full benefit of the orthoptic principle, the firer at three hundred yards' range can see at least fifty yards on each side of the target, and, at six hundred yards, double that with, and at other ranges in proportion. The prohibition referred to was at once taken off after it had been demonstrated to the N.R.A. that any danger to the markers was groundless, and they have been duly authorized at all rifle meetings ever since in the United Kingdom, the colonies, and India. As your journal has great influence amongst the shooting-men of the U.S.A., we venture to send three samples of the kind mostly used by the riflemen of this country; and some of the circulars with "directions for use," that we supply with the articles, and particulars of each article on the list.

Following are the directions for use:—

To a person who has never used an orthoptic sight the advantage is not at first apparent, but on looking through the aperture for a few seconds steadily, as in taking aim at some near object (such as at the back-sight of a rifle or at this printing), the eyesight gradually concentrates itself, and all objects in the line of vision, either near or distant, appear more distinct and with sharper outlines, and in a soft light that is very grateful to the eye.

The spectacles have an orthoptic in one eye-piece and a tinted glass in the other, and, the frame having a double bridge, either can be used on the right eye for shooting. To use the orthoptic, tie the elastic cord that is attached to one of the sides of the frame to the other side, so that when put on, the bridge of the frame fits firmly on the bridge of the nose, and adjust to the eye by moving the frame to the left until the right eye-piece touches the side of the nose. The sights of the rifle (when aligned on the target) will then be seen through the aperture, and a very slight adjustment will place the sights in the centre of it. The orthoptics having two or more apertures, can be moved round in the frame for further adjustment. If the position is "prone," the aperture intended for use should be moved to the left side of the eye-piece, and if shooting in the back position, it should be near the lower part of it.

The hat eyes should be fastened in the rim of the hat, *as near the eye as possible; the smaller end of the apertures next the eye*, and the orthoptic disc adjusted in the same manner as in the spectacles, according to position used in firing.

The apertures should be always cleaned from dust, etc., before using. This should be done with a small piece of soft wood, pointed and inserted in the large end of the aperture; any hard substance being used would alter the form of the aperture and destroy its effect. Before using them in firing it will be found advantageous to have a little snapping practice in order to accustom the wearer to get the sights readily in the centre of the aperture.

A strict attention to the foregoing instructions, combined with a little patience, will enable the wearer to use the ordinary military sights with as much accuracy as the more elaborate sights of a small-bore match-rifle.

So the creation of our new order of chivalry, has been officially notified at last. It is perhaps a curious fact that in our muster of medallion rewards for services in the field, we have not one which adequately meets the peculiar claims occasioned through being mentioned in despatches. In fact, there is really no composite distinction in use in England which can be legitimately designated a genuine military order of chivalry to be worn exclusively by officers, and which illustrates or commemorates some signal act of service in war, beyond the comparatively narrow area of gallantry within which the Victoria Cross operates. Under this new dispensation of the Crown, an officer may both wear the Victoria Cross and the Distinguished Service Order. The latter, in short, is to be the Military Legion of Honor. But it will bear no relation in the freedom of its distribution with the easy grace that has attended the bestowal of its French equivalent. The comprehensive scope of the new order, and the essentially royal character of its foundation, coupled to its relative rank with the interesting Order of the Indian Empire, make it a coveted acquisition.

## A German Officer on Infantry Tactics.

By Col. W. W. Knollys in Colburn's.

AFTER the great Duke's long series of victories had been crowned by the brilliant success achieved at Waterloo, our countrymen were so well satisfied with our military prowess that they contented themselves not with resting, but with absolutely going to sleep over their laurels. Not satisfied with pride in the past and present, they complacently disposed of the future. Because they possessed a general and an army which had conclusively shown their superiority over every other living general and existing army, they illogically concluded that their superiority would never again be even questioned. That we might be lulled into a false confidence by our past successes, that military science would ever make any progress, that there could arise able commanders and administrators whose ability would be superior to that of Wellington's successors, and neutralise by skill and numbers our qualifications for war, did not seem to occur to Englishmen. According to them, not only was the art of war henceforth to stand still, but continental armies would not, even as regards, efficiency, be able to raise themselves to our level. The result has been that for forty years we scarcely made any progress at all; and though during the subsequent thirty years much progress has undoubtedly been made, its rate of movement has been much slower than in Germany. The lessons of the past, especially those taught by Wellington and his army, we respect highly, but those lessons have not been properly applied. They should have served us as a scaffolding on which to mount higher, whereas they have been employed as a weight to keep us stationary. We awoke at last to the conviction that as the conditions of war had changed, the means of carrying it on required to be changed likewise. Unfortunately, the Germans had gained and have kept the start of us. Moreover, we have hardly yet shaken ourselves free from obsolete traditional rules, and still allow ourselves to be fettered by forms which are variable, no longer applicable, and, indeed, unsuited now for the carrying out of principles which are immutable. This is especially the case in respect to infantry tactics. As a matter of fact, we do not yet possess a satisfactory system, neither has the subject received in official quarters the earnest attention which its great importance demands.

The Germans had their Wellington in the shape of Blucher, and their Peninsular war in the shape of the war of liberation, while of the glory of Waterloo they were apt to claim rather more than a fair share. They, however, roused themselves sooner than we did from an illusion of perfection. Since their awakening, every triumph has been to them not a justification of repose but a stimulus to renewed efforts at improvement. They have also enjoyed comparatively recent experience of war with a civilised foe. Their experiments and views deserve therefore to be followed with respectful attention. Consequently we feel that we shall be conferring a boon on our readers by taking as the text of an article the translation by Lieut. D. Jung, of the Belgian army, of the German Capt. Baron E. Von Mirbach's "Instruction de la compagnie dans le service de campagne," which translation is published by C. Muquardt, of Brussels. The chief part of this book is devoted to "Ordres de combat," and it is on this part alone we shall write on the present occasion.

Capt. Von Mirbach makes, on the first instruction of the soldier, a remark which, though more especially applicable to the German army, where actual service with the colors does not exceed two and three-quarters years, is still worthy of consideration by us. His complaint is, in substance, that there is too much lecturing and too little practical training, and that an endeavor is made to apply to all descriptions of ground the letter instead of the spirit of the instructions. We trust that, now that we are beginning to pay some attention to the detailed tactical instructions of the company, we shall not commit the same error. As there are infinite varieties of ground and circumstances, it is evident that it is useless to overload the memory of the soldier with an army of rules, but that we should rather seek to impress upon him the main principles, and strive by developing his intelligence and by practice, to train him to exercise a judicious discrimination as to the means to be used. Unfortunately we are addicted to paying more attention to the means than to the end—to fetter tactics with drill. For example, all preliminary instruction in open or dispersed order is carried out on the level barrack-yard. Now, in war, a soldier is rarely called on to work over ground at all resembling the latter.

Commencing with the defence, our author, after some practical remarks on alignment, disposition, and fire, treats of the utilisation of the ground. According to him, the firing line should not be posted on the extreme borders of a wood unless there should happen to be a ditch there to cover the men, but rather from five to twenty paces inside. As to palings, thin walls, and houses, he maintains that they are not really shelters; and that, in fact, the men occupying them are more exposed than protected, especially when under a fire of artillery. In occupying a village he advocates rather the construction of shelter trenches than

the occupation of, and piercing loopholes in, walls and houses. Of course, if banks and ditches in a suitable position exist they may be utilised. His great point seems to be that the disposition of the defenders should not be regulated by that of the hedges, palings, walls, and houses, but by tactical consideration, since all these apparent defences offer good marks for the enemy's artillery, and the two last are positively dangerous from the stones and bricks sent flying when struck. If, however, the enemy has no artillery, or its fire is not effective, high substantial walls may be placed in a state of defence by means of loopholes and platforms on trestles. The most important thing is that there should be a free field of fire from 500 to 800 paces broad. Capt. Von Mirbach sensibly remarks on a mistake which is too general in every army, viz., that of allowing the men of the firing line to show themselves till they can fire with effect. As a rule, the attacking party, while yet a long way off, have the line of defence and the strength of the defenders in the front line clearly shown to them. Besides, it is useless to expose men who are not firing to the effect of the enemy's artillery, or stray bullets from the enemy's infantry. As to the disposition of the small supports, they ought to be kept together so as to be within reach of the commander's voice. He particularly impresses on the reader that they should never occupy a house. As he points out, how can an officer in a house of several storeys exercise command over his men, and direct their fire? How can he evacuate the house when the troops on his right and left retire? Besides, a single shell well directed will disgust forever an officer from occupying a habitation. There are, however, exceptions, such, for instance, as isolated farms surrounded by thick and high walls. These farms may sometimes prove useful as points *d'appui*, but only the outer walls should be lined. With one important remark of our author we shall quit our examination of this part of the book. That is, that when the assailant arrives within thirty yards of the defenders' firing line, the latter ought not to cease firing in order to charge with the bayonet. We will quote his very words:—

"At this moment a murderous fire will produce more effect than a charge with the bayonet, which would be half a failure, because only executed by a few men on account of the difficulty in making the word of command understood. The companies in reserve ought alone to execute this charge. As the latter advance, the fire of the firing line will increase in intensity, and will soon attain its maximum of violence, but as soon as they shall have approached within twenty to thirty paces of the line, officers and sergeants will exert all their energy in causing the fire to cease. . . . The men of the firing line will remain lying down, the columns will pass them by and march against the enemy."

We now pass to the portion of the book which is headed "Attack." The advance against a hostile position generally commences at from 800 to 1,500 metres—the metre being a little over three feet three inches. Our author points out that to the private soldier the essential difference between the defence and the attack is that the *tirailleur*, or man in the firing line, in the former only occupies one position, while in the latter he occupies several successive positions. Assuming the order of attack at from 800 to 1,500 metres, the advance of the *tirailleurs* will be made at the ordinary pace. As soon as the enemy's fire begins to tell, which is between 1,200 and 1,000 metres, the *tirailleurs* halt occasionally and fire. The distance between each position should be between 250 and 100 metres. Sometimes during this stage the line of *tirailleurs* advances by successive echelons, i.e., one part of the line advances to the next position, while another part remains halted and firing till the advanced position halts and opens fire. Then the portion at first left behind in its turn advances. We would observe with regard to this advance of the *tirailleurs* or fighting line by echelons, that the echelons should be of, considering length, not less than 100 yards in front, and in preference more; that great care should be taken by the commanders of echelons to preserve the right direction; and that the smaller the front of each echelon the shorter distance it should advance. A little consideration will show how important attention to these two points are; how certain it will be if they are not attended to that the echelons in rear will, in the first place, find it difficult to avoid hitting their own comrades in front, and, in the second place, how probable it will be that the rear echelons when they in their turn advance will find themselves shut out of the line. So strongly do we feel on this subject that we urge the advisability of advancing in echelon from one flank only. Indeed, we would suggest that recourse should not be had to an advance in echelon during the first few hundred yards after the opening of the defender's fire.

Our author recommends that, arrived at 700 to 500 metres, the advance should be accomplished by successive "bounds" of at first from 150 to 100 metres, and afterwards from 80 to 60 metres. During the period of successive bounds it is evident that as a rule it is not desirable that the *tirailleurs* should fire on the move, especially as the bounds should be made at the "double." Hence we arrive at the conclusion that whatever may be the case during the first period of the attack, the pushes should be made by echelons under cover of the rear echelons,

and in this case each rush should be short, say fifty yards, by small bodies, and from one, or both flanks of bodies of 200 men. Much, however, depends on the nature of the ground and the efficacy of the enemy's fire.

(To be Continued.)

### The Queen's Jubilee.

THE Imperial military authorities are busily preparing for the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee next June by an unprecedentedly large and representative review of the forces of the Crown at Aldershot. The suggestion has, it is said, been under consideration that representative bodies of troops from the colonies should join the British regular and auxiliary forces to do honor to the occasion. It will be remembered that as far back as last winter a suggestion of this nature awakened considerable approval in Canada, though little has been heard of the matter since. It is not improbable that the Imperial Government would be willing to provide transport for such colonial corps, if this would prove any inducement. In the meantime it is pointed out in Canadian military circles that the only way to ensure success would be for some particular regiment or regiments to show readiness to meet their own expenses in other respects than that of transport, as it is felt that no system of provisional battalions selected by Government could prove satisfactory to the men themselves, or to the authorities.—*Canadian Gazette.*

### Correspondence.

The Editor desires it distinctly understood that he does not hold himself responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents.

JUBILEE YEAR.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette.

SIR,—Would it not be a capital opportunity for the government to celebrate the jubilee of Her Most Gracious Majesty's long and successful reign, by granting to Her colonial militia outward and visible signs of acknowledgment for their past services? The Canadian militia is, as it at present exists, the creation of an act of the Dominion Parliament, passed in 1868; accordingly, those who joined the force in that year have served, if still in the ranks, 18 years. Would it not be a most gracious mark of favor, and a practical recognition of loyalty, if a Long Service medal were granted to all officers and men who have served in the militia of Canada 18 years; while badges worn on the arm, as in the militia at home, might be issued to men, for shorter periods of service (such as one stripe for 4 years, two for 5 years, three for 9 years, four for 12 years, and five for 16 years, with the medal for 18 years service). The badges to be worn on the left arm, as good conduct stripes are at home, instead of the unsoldierlike stars given to the English volunteers for long service. Some such recognition of the value of our services would not only make more popular the militia force among young soldiers, but would tend to keep veterans in the ranks, without whose presence no regiment can ever hope to excel either in the field or on parade. Those who have put in service with the Queen's colors, prior to joining the Canadian militia, should, of course, be allowed to count the term of years served towards the right of wearing the medal or bars respectively. The cost of medals would be small, while the fact of the possibility of a man's being able to earn such a decoration in the future would, I feel sure, help recruiting, more than even the presence of rich company officers in regiments.

A SCOTS GUARDSMAN.

MONTREAL, 10th Jan., 1887.

MEDALS FOR THE FENIAN RAIDS.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette.

DEAR SIR,—Permit me, as a "veteran" of the 1866 and 1870 campaigns, to suggest to the government (if our petition, as regards the giving of medals, which is about to be presented to it, be granted) that there is no necessity actually of applying to the Home authorities for the medal. Would not our fifty cent piece make a pretty medal? Then why not give us these in this form—keep the obverse intact, and erase on the reverse all inside the maple leaf wreath, and have that part engraved appropriately. The expense would not be very much, as there are not over 500 or 600 of us now. Here is a pretty medal at once, whilst the twenty-five cent piece would make a pretty "miniature." I would further suggest the medal, with a clasp for 1870, for those who served both years, and simply the medal to those who served in one campaign only. An inscription worded something this way would do—"Fenian Raid, 1866" (or 1870, as the case may be). I should like to see the opinions of others on this question. We certainly are entitled to some slight recognition of our services at the government's hands.

Yours truly,

R. SULLIVAN DAVID,  
Major, late 6th Fusiliers.

December 23, 1886.

HOW MANY OFFICERS HAD THE SHOEBOURNESS TEAM IN 1886?

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette.

SIR,—In the Montreal *Witness* of 31st December, 1886, I noticed a very interesting account of the officers who were first and second in command of the artillery team sent to England last year, with a good portrait of each officer. I believe that the selection of these two officers was made by the council of the Dominion artillery association. Can you tell me by whose authority the third officer's name and portrait appear in the same account as *third in command*? I was not aware that the D.A.A. were authorized to send three officers, so that if that governing body did not make this third appointment, who did, and by whose authority?

Yours,

A MEMBER OF THE D.A.A.

**Queries and Replies.**

**Q.** In the *Canada Gazette* of 23rd October last, I find the following promotions in the staff of the Royal Military College:—

"The assistant instructor in mathematics and the assistant instructor in surveying, to have respectively the rank of captain in the militia from the 30th June, 1885."

Please inform me why these commissions take rank in the militia from the above date.

**PROMOTION.**

**A.** The manifest answer, and the only one which could be got if the authorities were asked for one, is that such was His Excellency the Governor-General's pleasure. It does not however, seem difficult to read between the lines. On that date both gentlemen promoted had held the rank of lieutenant in the militia for five years and had been constantly actively engaged in a military employment. There was no prospect of promotion for them otherwise than by the pleasure of the executive, and it was very fitting that it should have been exercised. We said something last week about the lack of opportunity for promotion.—*Ed.*

**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?)

**Port Arthur.**—There has been no chance for the company here, now No. 1 of the Algoma provisional battalion, to drill since winter set in, as they have no drill shed. Major S. W. Ray, their late captain, now promoted to command the battalion, took a special course at the Toronto military school last term and intends returning on the 12th inst for a further course to qualify him for field rank. Color-Sergt. A. L. Friedman of this company passed through the same school last term, and Sergts. J. Dunston and J. Clark left here on the 2nd to attend this term.

The first annual prize meeting of the Port Arthur rifle association began on the 18th November with a capital programme, but the weather was so inclement with snow, cold and high winds drifting that it dragged most lamentably, not being closed till the 22nd. There was a good attendance, but the average shooting was poor in consequence of the above drawbacks. Sergt. John Woodside won the principal association match and with it the D.R.A. medal. Wm. Murdoch, Esq., president of the association, the well known engineer, asserted his perennial youth by winning the all-comers' match with a Martini, 5 shots at 300 and 400 yards, with a score of 47 out of 50. The association have determined to profit by their experience this year, and to hold their next matches about the end of July so as to be able to select a team for the D. R. A. meeting.

**Toronto.**—The Queen's Own are waiting anxiously for an answer to a letter sent to the government asking permission to go to England to take part in the Queen's Jubilee in June next. It is to be hoped that the government will see their way clear to grant their request, as the members are most anxious to go, and they want to get started at drill at once if the answer is satisfactory.

The annual meeting of the sergeants' mess of the Queen's Own Rifles was held in their mess rooms on Monday evening, Sergt.-Major Crean in the chair. There was a large attendance of the members. After the reports of the president and treasurer were read and adopted, the following were elected officers for the ensuing year: president, Color-Sergt. McKell; vice-president, bugle-major Swift; treasurer, Staff-Sergt. Strachan; secretary, Staff-Sergt. Williams; board of management, Col.-Sergt. Worlds, Sergts. Robertson and Higinbotham. The financial standing of the mess is most satisfactory, and the coming year promises to be a very successful one.

**Montreal.**—Major Davidson, of the Victoria Rifles, is preparing a little work on Military Law and the duties of magistrates in times of riot. It will likely be issued shortly.

All the corps are re-organizing in preparation for the coming season's drill.

There have lately been numerous changes in and additions to the list of officers of the Victoria Rifles, and the corps now has its complement with the exception of surgeon and assistant-surgeon. Out of the 24 officers, 20 have risen from the ranks; seventeen hold certificates, two are staff officers and do not require them, and the other five expect to obtain their certificates shortly.

The non-commissioned officers' class conducted by the adjutant of the Vics. will soon have finished its course. Recruit drill by the sergeant-major will commence on the 15th.

Work upon the Vics. new armoury has been resumed, and will go on uninterruptedly until the building is finished. The corps expect to take possession in May.

Great excitement prevailed amongst military men last week when the story of the contemplated removal of the popular D.A.G. was spread about. General satisfaction was expressed when subsequently it was found to be a *canard*.

**Sault Ste. Marie.**—The Half Mountain battery here was last summer reorganized and has been much improved by the enlistment of a number of smart, active young men. One of the N. C. officers has gone for a short course of instruction to the royal school of artillery, Kingston.

**Arnprior.**—Col. J. W. Lewis, brigade major of the Ottawa district, inspected the new rifle company organized in connection with the 43rd Rifles on the 3rd, and the armory of the corps the next day. He expressed himself highly pleased at the smart and soldierlike appearance of the men, and the excellent manner in which their arms and accoutrements were kept.

**Ottawa.**—Monday night was "president's night" with the Rifles' snowshoe club, and, as is always the case, the turnout was the largest of the season, there being on hand nearly sixty of the seventy-five members constituting the club. Among the officers of the 43rd Batt. present, besides Captain and Adjutant Evans, the highly popular president of the club, were Lt.-Col. White, Major Walsh, Capt. Sherwood and Lieut. Rogers. After an hour's good tramping across country, which seemed to some of the snowshoers to have more than its fair share of fences and hills, the club arrived at the Taché Hill tobogganing slide, which the president, Mr. Taché, had courteously placed at their disposal for the occasion. Shoes being unstrapped, nearly an hour was spent in the delightful pastime of tobogganing, and this and the previous exercise had put all in fine form for enjoying the excellent supper which had been provided for them at the residence of Capt. Evans on Daly Avenue. After supper a programme of songs, speeches and selections from the club orchestra made the time pass very pleasantly until about midnight, when the company dispersed, having heartily cheered their hospitable host.

The Princess Louise Dragoon Guards' snowshoe club had an outing last evening, winding up at the Coffee House.

On Monday, the second evening of the course of lectures to be given by the officers of the G.G.F.G., papers were read by Lt. Shannon, on the duties of the regimental orderly sergeant and corporal; Lt. Bowie on the duties of the company orderly sergeant and corporal; and Lt. Gishorne on the duties of non-commissioned officers on canteen duty, cook house orderlies, and other such duties. There was a good attendance of officers and the non-commissioned officers' class having expressed a desire to hear the lecture were present also. The officers yet to read papers this month are Captain and Adjutant Hodgins, on Monday next; Lts. Thompson, Hodgins and Côté on the 24th, and Capt. Toller on the 31st.

Recruit drill will be commenced very shortly. The squads will be in charge of Col.-Sergt. Davis. Sergt.-Instructor McIntyre, who a few weeks ago received a paralytic stroke which it was feared would permanently disable him, is happily in not such a critical condition. He is now able to rise from his bed at the hospital, and his physicians think he will soon be about again as usual.

A couple of stoves have been placed in the drill hall, which, being without heating apparatus except in the armories, has up to the present been too cold to be comfortable in the winter time. Two or three more would be required to bring up the degree of warmth.

Six members of the G. G. F. G., all that could be admitted, have gone to the infantry schools to take three months courses there. Bugler James went to "C" School, Toronto, and Corpl. Cole, Ptes. MacCraken, Stroulger, Shea and Adams to "B" School, St. John's, P.Q. When they paraded at the drill hall just before their departure they made an excellent appearance, every man exceedingly neat and soldierlike, and they may be trusted to do credit to their corps at the schools.

This evening the annual military dinner takes place at Government House. All officers of the local corps receive invitations.

The Sharpshooters' Memorial Fund Committee held a meeting in the City Hall on Monday evening, when there were present Mayor McDougal (chairman), Colonel Powell, W.H. Rowley, F. Newby and Major Todd, the secretary. A communication from Mr. Percy Wood, the sculptor, was read requesting the committee to state definitely whether or not they would accept his design for the monument, as on account of the press of work coming to him in connection with Her Majesty's jubilee, he would not be able to give his services to the committee unless speedily notified. After consideration it was resolved to delay answering for a short time as the requisite funds are not yet on hand. The treasurer, Mr. W.H. Rowley, reported that \$2,138 had been received, and that a good deal more yet uncollected had been promised. \$5,000 is the sum proposed to be raised. It was decided to apply to the corporation of Ottawa city and Carleton county for grants.

The Ottawa field battery have resolved to subscribe \$100 to the monument fund.

**Militia General Orders, No. 1, of 5th January, 1887.**

**No. 1.**—ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE OF CANADA.

*Annual Examination for Candidates, 1887.*

**SUBJECTS AND BOOKS.**

The annual examination to be held in the present year, for candidates desiring to be admitted as cadets to the Royal Military College of Canada, Kingston, will commence at the District Staff Office, at the headquarters of the several military districts in which candidates reside, on Tuesday the 14th day of June,—the medical examinations to be held the day previous. The subjects and books in which candidates will be examined are as follows:—

**OBLIGATORY OR PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.**

(1) Mathematics:

	Marks.
(a) Arithmetic, including vulgar and decimal fractions, simple and compound proportions, simple and compound interest, partnership, profit and loss	500
(b) Algebra, including simple equations	500
(c) Geometry, first book of Euclid, or its equivalent	500

*If Euclid is not used as a text book, the candidate is to mention at the head of his answer paper the name of the author of the text book used.*

(2) (a) Grammar, English or French. Writing English or French correctly, and in good legible hand from dictation
 500 |

(b) Composition, as tested by the powers of writing an essay, precis, or letter, in English or French
 500 |

(3) Geography, general and descriptive
 500 |

(4) History, British and Canadian, general
 500 |

\* (5) French: grammar and translation from the language
 500 |

(6) Latin: grammar and simple translation from the language into either English or French as may be preferred by the candidate
 500 |

(7) Elements of freehand drawing, viz.: simple copies from the flat; outline only
 300 |

\* French will, for the present, be optional, and may therefore be omitted by a candidate.

No candidate will be considered qualified for a cadetship or be allowed to count marks in the "further examination" unless he obtains a minimum of one-third of the total number of marks in each of the subjects; 1 (a, b, c, together) 2 (a and b, together) 3, 4, 6 and 7.

**VOLUNTARY OR FURTHER EXAMINATION.**

(1) Mathematics:

	Marks.
(a) Algebra—Up to and including quadratic equations	1000
(b) Geometry—Up to and including third book of Euclid, or its equivalent	1000

*If Euclid is not used as a text book, the candidate is to mention at the head of his answer paper the name of the author of the text book used.*

- (c) Theory and use of common logarithms, plane trigonometry, mensuration. . . . . 1000
- (2) English or French literature—Limited to specified authors. . . . . 1000
- (a) The examination to include Primer of the History of English Literature, by Rev. Stopford Brooke and Shakespeare's play of Julius Cæsar; or, for French speaking candidates, some standard French author, but not necessarily "Text" work.
- (3) Geography—Physical, particularly of Dominion of Canada and United States. . . . . 1000
- (a) Examination in Colton's Outlines of Physical Geography . . . . .
- (4) History—British and Canadian, limited to certain fixed periods. . . . . 1000
- (a) Examination in History of the British Empire, embracing the Stuart and Brunswick periods, and the period from 1812 to the present time (any school author) of Canadian History.
- (5) French grammar, and translation from English into French or from French into English. . . . . 1200
- (6) Latin, including Cæsar's Commentaries, Book IV., from chap. xx. to chap. xxxviii (inclusive). Book V. to end of 23rd chap., and 1st, 4th, 6th, 7th and 9th Eclogues of Virgil. Translation into either English or French as may be preferred by the candidate. . . . . 1500
- (7) Drawing—Copies from the flat; shaded. Simple object drawing. . . . . 1000

No "Voluntary" subject, except mathematics and drawing, shall gain a candidate any marks, unless he obtains a minimum of one-third of the marks assigned to that subject.

The marks gained in the "Obligatory" subjects will be added to those gained in the "Voluntary" subjects, to make a second total.

It is to be understood that English-speaking candidates use the papers prepared in that language, and that French-speaking candidates use papers prepared in the French language. The object of this permission is to allow candidates to write their examination papers, except where, from the nature of the question, it is otherwise required, in English or French, whichever may be the language with which they are most familiar.

The standard of knowledge of English required from French-speaking candidates for the present, will be:—To write and speak English sufficiently to understand and be understood in that language.

Candidates should make application to the Adjutant-General, Ottawa, by 1st May, in order that arrangements may be made for their examination in June.

NOTE.—Candidates will be permitted, after examination, to retain the printed examination questions, provided no rough work or scribbling has been done thereon, of which the supervising officer of the local board having assured himself, he will initial the printed questions to be retained.

## Militia General Orders, No. 2, of 7th January, 1887.

### No. 1.—REGULATIONS AND ORDERS FOR THE MILITIA, 1883.

#### *Schools of Military Instruction.—Annual Reports.*

The following has been added as sub-section (1) of paragraph 526, Regulations and Orders, 1883:—

"(1) Commandants of Schools of Military Instruction will prepare reports annually on the progress and state of their respective schools for the year, which are to be forwarded to headquarters not later than 20th December. Previous to these being published, an opportunity will be given, where possible, for alterations to be made up to 31st December."

#### No. 2.—STAFF.

Captain Henry Fullerton Perley, Engineer Officer at Headquarters, to have the rank of Major in the militia as a special case.

#### No. 3.—ACTIVE MILITIA.

**1st Prov. Brig. F. A.**—No. 1 F. B.—2nd Lieut. Frank B. Hall resigns.  
No. 2 F. B.—To be lieutenant, 2nd Lieut. William Allan Higinbotham, R S A, vice William Tuck, who retires retaining rank.  
To be 2nd lieut. prov., Sergt. Herbert Digby Merewether, vice Higinbotham.

**26th Batt.**—No. 3 Co.—Captain William Gibson Lumley resigns.

**33rd Batt.**—No. 4 Co.—Lieut. James Scott resigns.

**35th Batt.**—No. 2 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., Alexander Duntroon Macintyre, vice Stephen, resigned.

**49th Batt.**—No. 5 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., Sergt. Edward Vincent, vice Pegan, resigned.

**77th Batt.**—No. 2 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., William Hall Ptolemy, vice Paul Arnold.

#### CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

2nd Lieut. Lennox Irving, S. I., No. 6 Co., 42nd Batt. from 16th Dec., 1886.  
2nd Lieut. John W. Bice, No. 5 Co., 26th Batt., from 16th Dec., 1886.  
2nd Lieut. George Harvey Douglas, S. I., No. 4 Co., 24th Batt., from 16th Dec., 1886.

2nd Lieut. Frank Strange, S. I., 14th Batt., from 16th December, 1886.  
2nd Lieut. James Wayling, S. I., No. 7 Co., 12th Batt., from 16th Dec., 1886.  
2nd Lieut. Henry Mace Jackson, S. I., No. 3 Co., 41st Batt., from 16th Dec., 1886.

Lieut. Phillippe Joseph Joliceur, S. I., No. 5 Co., 9th Batt, from 1st Dec., 1886.  
Lieut. Alfred Fortier, S. I., No. 4 Co., 92nd Batt., from 1st Dec. 1886.

2nd Lieut. John George Garneau, R. S. A., Q. F. B., from 30th Nov. 1886.  
2nd Lieut. Charles Henry Stephens, S. I., No. 4 Co., 54th Batt., from 3rd Dec., 1886.

Lieut. Melbourne Sears, S. I., 1st B., No. 5 Co., 74th Batt., from date of appointment, 30th July, 1886.

**Quebec F. B. A.**—To be lieutenant, 2nd Lieut. John George Garneau, R S A, vice Thibadeau, retired.

**8th Batt.**—To be lieutenant, prov., Frederick Webber Ashe, vice William Henry Forrest, who resigns.

To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Charles John Dunn, vice Forrest, promoted:

**54th Batt.**—No. 2 Co.—The headquarters of this company are hereby changed from "Flodden" to "Melbourne."

**71st Batt.**—No. 5 Co.—To be lieutenant, prov., Thomas Getchel Kelly, vice Hoyt, retired.

To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., George Rankin Burt, vice Hartt, promoted captain.

**69th Batt.**—To be major, Capt. J. Osbert Marshall, M S, from the adjutancy, vice Major De Lancy Harris, who retires retaining rank.

To be adjutant, Lieut. Charles B. Cornwell, M S, from No. 1 Co., vice Marshall.

**93rd Batt.**—No. 2 Co.—To be 2nd lieutenant, prov., Sergt. Anthony Fillmore, vice Donkin, promoted,

**82nd Batt.**—*Memo.*—No. 2 of general orders (18) 2nd July, 1875, in which Capt. Elijah Purdy is appointed adjutant in the Charlottetown Provisional Batt. of Infantry—now comprised in 82nd Batt.—is hereby amended to read as follows, viz.: "To be adjutant with rank of captain, Capt. Elijah Purdy, Q.F.O."

**91st Batt.**—Capt. and Adj. Charles Constantine is permitted to retire retaining his rank of captain as a special case.

**Victoria Rifle Co.**—To be captain, Lieut. Philip Woollacott, V. B., vice Green, retired.

#### No. 4.—CERTIFICATES GRANTED.

##### ROYAL SCHOOLS OF ARTILLERY.

##### *First Class Short Course, Grade A.*

Lieut. J. G. Garneau, Quebec F. B.; 2nd Lieut. J. E. P. Bergeron, No. 2 battery, Levis Gar. Art.

##### *First Class Short Course, Grade B.*

Gunner H. Harris, Halifax Gar. Art.; Staff-Sergt. G. M. Gibson, Montreal Gar. Art.; Sergt. E. Bouchard, Quebec Gar. Art.

##### *Second Class Short Course, Grade B.*

Sergt. E. Lapointe, Quebec Gar. Art.

##### SCHOOLS OF INFANTRY.

##### *First Class Short Course, Grade A.*

Major W. W. White, 30th Batt.; 2nd Lieut. C. H. Stephens, 54th Batt.

##### *Second Class Short Course, Grade A.*

Lieut. J. D. Roche, 8th Batt.; Lieut. P. J. Joliceur, 90th Batt.; 2nd Lieut. J. Wayling, 12th Batt.; 2nd Lieut. F. Strange, 14th Batt.; 2nd Lieut. J. W. Bice, 26th Batt.; 2nd Lieut. H. M. Jackson, 41st Batt.; 2nd Lieut. L. Irving, 42nd Batt.; Lieut. A. Fortier, 92nd Batt.

##### *First Class Special Course.*

Capt. W. H. Asselstine, 41st Batt.

##### *Second Class Special Course.*

2nd Lieut. G. H. Douglas, 24th Batt.

##### *First Class Short Course, Grade B.*

Pte. J. R. Phillips, B Co., I S C; Sergt. W. S. Priestly, 32nd Batt.; Corpl. A. Leger, 65th Batt.; Corpl. E. Moreau, 87th Batt.

##### *Second Class Short Course, Grade B.*

Pte. N. Loisselle, B Co., I S C; Pte. M. McLennan, B Co., I S C; Sergt. G. Goulet, 9th Batt.; Sergt. W. J. B. White, 14th Batt.; Col.-Sergt. J. H. Wynne, 27th Batt.; Pte. W. G. Wright, 31st Batt.; Pte. C. Foster, 35th Batt.; Pte. J. H. Spencer, 35th Batt.; Sergt. H. C. Stewart, 36th Batt.; Pte. W. S. Flesher, 36th Batt.; Sergt. H. M. Irwin, 46th Batt.; Sergt. J. F. Rosevear, 46th Batt.; Pte. J. Walker, 54th Batt.; Corpl. A. Patterson, 59th Batt.; Sergt. L. Leduc, 65th Batt.; Pte. A. Doyer, 88th Batt.; Pte. C. Bilodeau, 92nd Batt., Sergt. A. L. Friedman, Algoma Prov. Batt.

## Gleanings.

(From the Broad Arrow.)

The letter from a recent correspondent in the *Times* on Novelties in Naval Warfare reads like a chapter from one of Jules Verne's books. First, there is a submarine gun which is to fire an explosive shell under water, and thus do away with the fish torpedo. Then there is a submarine boat, ironically called the Peacemaker, driven by steam generated by the heat of caustic potash, and carrying torpedoes which fix themselves to the iron skin of ships by the attraction of magnets. The "Destroyer" appears to be a pleasant vessel, fortunately not yet constructed, which is to be as full of infernal machines as an egg is full of meat, dynamite rockets, compressed air-guns, etc.

The theory of selection demands that the very best men in the army, physically and mentally, should be selected for staff employment, but how they are to be ascertained, and with the best intentions in the world, the tendency will be to select men who are favorably known to His Royal Highness, but not necessarily the best men.

This reminds us that we have several valuable inventions in our office at the service of the military authorities—a piano-mitrailleuse, consisting of 50 rifle barrels in two rows, armour-plated, and fixed on four wheels. The piano-mitrailleuse is directed and fired by one man who sits or stands behind it and discharges it by simply touching the keys of the piano. Then we have a repeating rifle in which the butt instead of being made of wood is made of thin steel plate and contains the cartridges for the rifle. The cartridges are fired in succession without any extraction of empty cases being necessary. In our backyard we have a military waggon intended to convey infantry rapidly from place to place. This conveyance consists of a long pole on four light wheels. On the pole is arranged a set of padded seats with stirrups. The men to be conveyed will sit astride on the pole, and it is calculated that twenty men can be thus conveyed at the same time. We have several other things under trial, but they are hardly in a sufficiently matured state to permit of our describing them at present.

There is a very curious article in the current number of the *Contemporary Review*, of which we received an early copy, with the single title "The Army." The paper is anonymous. The writer is a pessimist of pessimists, and groans that the service is going to the dogs. This is far from being the case, nor does the allegation derive any support from the converse conclusion that foreign nations are ahead of us in military science. The essayist is evidently a philo-German in army affairs, and quotes *ad nauseam* the well-worn legends about Sadowa and Sedan, the mobilisation of the Prussian army in 1870 in from seven to eleven days, and all the rest of it. The argument, of course, is inferentially prejudicial to our military system, but what is the difference of mobilisation to the two countries? In Germany mobilisation is a mere affair of going into the next street, i.e. concentrating an army to cross the frontier of a neighboring power. With us it means mobilisation for concentration in a country three thousand, or seven thousand, or ten thousand miles away. Our powers of mobilisation are equal to those of Germany or any other foreign powers, and vastly ahead of their resources where transport abroad is necessary. We could throw an army corps into Scotland in less than a week, and if necessary could have a force of 30,000 men with a practically invincible fleet within firing distance of the sacred shores of Hamburg or Kiel itself in less than ten days. We have never been able to appreciate these comparisons between England and Germany to the discredit of the former as a military power where it is not men, but the power of moving them that serves the basis of atrabilious criticism. The writer groans also that our officers are below the standard of efficiency represented abroad, and he cites admonitory field orders from the pen of the commander-in-chief after some review. The malicious accusation is made that "if society could have its way officers would still be obtaining promotion by the fatness of their pockets and sentencing men to be flogged." The writer also betrays a superficial understanding of the causes of the flow of recruits which followed the introduction of short service. The real inducement existed in the concurrent improvement socially, domestically, personally, of the soldier's life in the ranks. We wish editors would leave army criticism to critics with well-ordered stomachs.

Although fire tactics will still have no place in the course at Hythe, in spite of the fact that they are a feature in almost all foreign schools of musketry, much will be done to further the strict and efficient practice of fire discipline side by side with careful instruction, which after all, is the secret of success with quick-loading arms.

This point should receive full consideration in discussion of the subject of the adoption of repeating rifles, for:—"If there is any want of thorough training in firing, combined with strict fire discipline and control of fire by all subordinate commanders, at least up to the battalion commander, troops armed with long-range, rapid-firing rifles will inevitably fall into independent firing at long ranges, when all the advantages of unity of action will be lost."

Most nations, therefore, only allow a rapid fire at distances of from 200 to 400 metres. The Germans alone do not lay this down in their regulations, for they appear to recognise the fact that "with well-trained infantry armed with a rifle of sufficient range, a flat trajectory and good penetration, the distance should in future play a secondary part. Long-range fire, both volley and independent, will be regarded as a fundamental instruction rather than as an occasional practice." Experimental firing, such as that at long distances, with special sights, night-firing, indirect and curved fire at concealed objects, etc., which has already been instituted at Hythe, will be more fully carried out. The latter kind of fire has of late been the subject of study, both in France and Germany, and if, when further developed, should have an important bearing on the principles of attack and defence.

**Our Trading Column.**

This column is established for the purpose of enabling our friends to exchange, purchase, sell, or otherwise advertise articles they desire either to acquire or dispose of. It is not available for commercial purposes.

The cost of announcements in this column for each insertion will be **one cent per word for the first ten words one-half cent for each additional word.** Each advertisement will have a register number in our books, and all communications regarding it must be forwarded through the GAZETTE, but it must be distinctly understood that this office incurs no other responsibility or liability in connection therewith. Address, with stamp for return postage, **Canadian Militia Gazette, Box 316, Ottawa.**

**WANTED TO PURCHASE.**—Rifle mounted officer's saddle. Describe and quote prices. Register No. 3.

**FOR SALE.**—Two pairs of new black silk stars for rifle tunic or patrol badges. Price one dollar per pair. Register No. 6.

**FOR SALE.**—Officer's Uniform, Lieut.-Col., R. Artillery. Half price, except a few articles bran new. List on application; all in good condition. Register No. 8.

**FOR SALE.**—Rifle Officer's Uniform; height 5 ft. 9 in., chest 37 inches; Tunic Mess-suit, Patrol, Nickled Sword, &c., cheap. List on application. Register No. 10.

**WANTED TO PURCHASE.**—Copies of vols. 1 for 1867, and 9 for 1875, with any remaining volumes to the close of its existence, of the *Volunteer Review*, formerly published at Ottawa by Dawson Kerr. State price, condition, etc. Register No. 11.



**Notice to Contractors.**

**SEALED TENDERS** addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Ho.-water Heating Apparatus, Post Office Building, Hull, P. Q.," will be received at this office until **WEDNESDAY, 19th inst.**, for the erection and completion of a

**Hot-water Heating Apparatus.**

—AT THE—  
**Post Office, &c., Building, Hull, P. Q.**

Plans and specifications can be seen at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, on and after **SATURDAY, 8th inst.**

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

Each tender must be accompanied by an *accepted* bank cheque made payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, equal to five per cent. of the amount of the tender, which will be forfeited 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. GOBELL,**  
Secretary

Department of Public Works,  
Ottawa, 3rd January, 1887.

**N. McEACHREN,**

**MILITARY TAILOR,**

ALBERT HALL BUILDINGS,

191 YONGE STREET - - - TORONTO.

**UNIFORMS** of every description made to order and everything necessary to an

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**Terms strictly cash.**



**Notice to Contractors.**

**SEALED TENDERS** addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for Midland Harbor Works," will be received until Tuesday, the 25th day of January, 1887, inclusively, for the construction of Works at Midland, Simcoe County, Ontario, according to a plan and specification to be seen on application to the Reeve, Midland, at the office of the Resident Engineer, Midland Division of the Grand Trunk Railway, Peterborough, and at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, where printed forms of tender can be obtained.

Persons desirous of tendering are requested to make personal enquiry relative to the work to be done, and to examine the locality themselves, and are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied, the blanks properly filled in, and signed with their actual signatures.

Each tender must be accompanied by an *accepted* bank cheque made payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, for the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), which will be forfeited 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. GOBELL,**  
Secretary.

Department of Public Works,  
Ottawa, 24th December, 1886.

**TO ADVERTISERS!**

For a check of \$20 we will print a ten-line advertisement in One Million issues of leading American Newspapers and complete the work within ten days. This is at the rate of only one-fifth of a cent a line, for 1,000 circulation! The advertisement will appear in but a single issue of any paper, and consequently will be placed before One Million different newspaper purchasers;—or FIVE MILLION READERS, if it is true, as is sometimes stated, that every newspaper is looked at by five persons on an average. Ten lines will accommodate about 75 words. Address with copy of Adv. and check, or send 30 cents for book of 176 pages.

**GEO. P. ROWELL & CO.,**  
10 Spruce St., New York.

We have just issued a new edition (the 161st) of our book called "Newspaper Advertising." It has 176 pages, and among its contents may be named the following Lists and Catalogues of Newspapers:—

Daily Newspapers in New York City with their Advertising Rates.

Daily Newspapers in Cities having more than 150,000 population, omitting all but the best.

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A small List of Newspapers in which to advertise every section of the country; being a choice selection made up with great care, guided by long experience.

One Newspaper in a State. The best one for an advertiser to use if he will use but one.

Bargains in Advertising in Daily Newspapers in many principal cities and towns, a List which offers peculiar inducements to some advertisers.

Largest Circulations. A complete list of all American papers issuing regularly more than 25,000 copies.

The best List of Local Newspapers, covering every town of over 5,000 population and every important county seat.

Select List of Local Newspapers, in which advertisements are inserted at half price.

5,493 Village Newspapers in which advertisements are inserted for \$41 a line, and appear in the whole lot—one-half of all the American Weeklies.

Sent to any address for **THIRTY CENTS.**



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Invested Funds, \$31,470,435.64.  
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Class H Policies are FREE FROM ALL RESTRICTIONS, the contract being PAYABLE WITHOUT THE SMALLEST DOUBT.

**W. M. RAMSEY,** Manager, Montreal.

Agents in every city and town in the Dominion.



**CAPE BRETON RAILWAY.**

SECTION—GRAND NARROWS TO SYDNEY.

**Tender for the Works of Construction.**

**SEALED TENDERS** addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tenders for Cape Breton Railway," will be received at this office up to noon on Wednesday the 12th day of January, 1887, for certain works of construction.

Plans and profiles will be open for inspection at the office of the Chief Engineer and General Manager of the Government Railways at Ottawa, and also at the office of the Cape Breton Railway at Port Hawksberry, C.B., on and after the 27th day of December, 1886, when the general specifications and form of tender may be obtained upon application.

No tender will be entertained unless on one of the printed forms and all the conditions are complied with.

By order,  
**A. P. BRADLEY,**  
Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals,  
Ottawa, 15th December, 1886.

**MAYNARD, HARRIS & CO.,**  
*Military and Civil Service Outfitters,*  
 CONTRACTORS AND AGENTS,  
 126 and 127 Leadenhall Street, London, England,  
 (ESTABLISHED SIXTY YEARS.)

UNIFORMS :: FOR :: ALL :: SERVICES.

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 OF BEST QUALITY AND MANUFACTURE AT STRICTLY MODERATE PRICES.

Estimates, Drawings, Patterns, &c.,  
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 Dominion

Inventions Exhibition, 1885. The only Gold Medal for tone quality.

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The Prototype Instruments, being unequalled in musical quality and durability, are the best and cheapest for use abroad. Write for Testimonials from Canadian Musicians and Bands using the Besson Instruments.

**F. BESSON & CO.**

198 EUSTON ROAD, LONDON, ENG.,  
**Military Band Instrument Makers.**

The Besson Prototype Instruments are kept in stock by the following Sellers:—Alsip, Winnipeg; Grossman, Hamilton; Hubbard, Waterloo; Nye, Halifax; Orme & Son, Ottawa, &c., &c., and of all leading Music Dealers in Canada.

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 to, and other friends of  
**THE MILITIA GAZETTE**  
 would promote its interests by, whenever convenient,  
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 MENTION THIS PAPER WHEN ORDERING.

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 For Manitoba and the North-West Territories.

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**MILITARY GOODS**  
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All work guaranteed according to regulation.  
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 (Incorporated 1861)  
 MANUFACTURE  
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**SPORTING POWDER,**

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 in every variety.

**DYNAMITE**

And all other modern "High Explosives."

SOLE LICENSEES FOR

**H. Julius Smith's Magneto-Battery,**

The best for accurate Electric Firing of Shots, Blasts, Mines, Torpedoes, &c.

MANUFACTURERS' AGENTS

For Insulated Wire, Electric Fuses, Safety Fuses, Detonators, &c.

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Makes the MILITIA GAZETTE of peculiar value to advertisers.

**IT CIRCULATES THROUGH EVERY PROVINCE,**

**IT HAS REGULAR READERS IN EACH CORPS.**

**THE REPRESENTATIVE MEN OF EVERY RANK**

In a force numbering

**NEARLY FORTY THOUSAND,**

Are subscribers to it.

**THE MILITIA GAZETTE**

—IS THE—

**ONLY :: MILITARY :: JOURNAL**

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**MILITIA ATTENTION!**

NOW READY,

**"SQUAD DRILL ELUCIDATED,"**

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Will be found invaluable to officers, non-commissioned officers and men as

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being simple to understand and leaving nothing to be imagined by the student.

Will be sent post paid to any address on receipt of price 50 cts. a copy, or three for \$1.50.

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**JOHN F. CREAM,**

MERCHANT TAILOR,

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**89 YONGE STREET,**  
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 IN CANADA.

Liberal Commission.

Write for Terms.

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**MILITARY BOOTMAKER,**  
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**WINNIPEG,**

N.B.—All work done in first-class style.

**JOHN MARTIN & Co**

**MILITARY OUTFITTERS,**

**457 ST. PAUL ST.,**

**MONTREAL.**



**Money Orders.**

MONEY ORDERS may be obtained at any Money Order Office in Canada, payable in the Dominion; also in the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, India, the Australian Colonies, and other countries and British Colonies generally.

On Money Orders payable within Canada the commission is as follows:

If not exceeding \$4	2c.
Over \$4, not exceeding \$10	5c.
" 10, " "	10c.
" 20, " "	20c.
" 40, " "	30c.
" 60, " "	40c.
" 80, " "	50c.

On Money Orders payable abroad the commission is:

If not exceeding \$10	10c.
Over \$10, not exceeding \$20	20c.
" 20, " "	30c.
" 30, " "	40c.
" 40, " "	50c.

For further information see OFFICIAL POSTAL GUIDE.

**A. CAMPBELL,**

Postmaster-General

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