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CORRESPONDENCE.

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Comment and Criticism.

It is with pleasure that we make a correction respecting the paragraph which appeared in last issue, connecting the attendance of "A" company, I.S.C., at the New Brunswick camp with the district order reducing to 37 the number of men authorized for drill per company in No. 8 district. It seems that our informant did not fully understand the cause of this economising. But the Infantry School Company were ordered to camp in addition to the strength authorized for drill in the district, and the slight extra expense involved by their attendance comes out of a different fund to that for the annual drill.

THE National artillery association of Great Britain have been obliged to decline the invitation extended to them by the Dominion association to send a team to participate in the grand artillery competition to be held at Quebec in September. The secretary, Major J. I. Rutley, writing to Capt. J. B. Donaldson, secretary of the D.A.A., states that events in connection with the jubilee celebration at home make it impossible to accept this year. An invitation was also sent to the Scottish artillery association, but they have not so far been heard from.

THE Fifth Royal Scots of Montreal were the only corps besides the 43rd Battalion of Ottawa, having enterprise enough to enter a team of twelve men for the bayonet exercise competition in connection with the jubilee sports held in this city on Dominion day. The rest of the Ottawa corps, and those assembled at the district camp at the time, held aloof. The Scots have reaped a reward for their pluck, and we congratulate them. They came, we believe, without the intention of

competing and without preparation, and it was not surprising therefore that, according to the judge's decision, their team was a few points behind another in the competition. But a protest was entered against the leading team, and this being referred to Major-General Middleton has been upheld by him, and in consequence the trophy, a handsome silver cup, goes to the Fifth. The kilted visitors made an excellent impression during their visit here, and the citizens generally were glad to see them winners of the several prizes which fell to them at the sports.

THE programme for the annual prize meeting of the Quebec provincial rifle association appears in another place in this issue, together with a brief statement showing the changes from that of last year. The prize list has been increased, and the shooting will once more extend over three days in place of being crowded into two, which last year proved to be too short a time to satisfactorily carry out the programme.

THE military matches have a prominent place. We like the principle of unlimited team entries from any corps which the Quebec association have adopted in connection with these matches. It is hard to bring about practice skirmishing or volley firing for competitions such as those in the D.R.A. programme, for which only five from each corps may enter. Unless a man feel pretty sure that he will be one of the five chosen to represent his corps, he will not waste time and money in practice, and as a result teams enter trusting solely to luck rather than experience to carry them through.

OF course a difficulty in the way of having unlimited entries in the D.R.A. military matches would be that this would give corps within easy reach of Ottawa an advantage over those from a distance, inasmuch as the former could enter four or five teams to one from the latter. But a question which might well be discussed is, whether it would not be in the interest of the force as a whole to encourage general training in this highly practical form of shooting, even though the chances of profit to distant teams are thereby lessened. Perhaps some equivalent could be offered to the men from the outlying provinces. They come at a tremendous expense to themselves, their associations, or both, and we would greatly regret to see them placed at any disadvantage compared with their fellow competitors from central Canada.

THE Militia General Orders of the 15th inst. are published in this issue. These are more than usually interesting. They deal largely with the Royal Military College, comprising lists of the class graduating from that institution in June, with the marks obtained by each, the names of those who have accepted commissions in the army, and also the list of successful candidates for admission to the college. The number to be admitted is twenty-six, in place of twenty-four as prescribed, the results of the examinations having been such as to justify the issue of a special order for the increase in the class. The popularity of this useful institution continues as great as ever.