

found voice in the following squib, lately sent to us: "SEALED TENDERS addressed to the militia force of Canada, will be received from members of parliament, or even from one member, who will undertake, on behalf of the force, to defend and promote its interests at all times in parliament; who will be alive and attentive to its wants; in accord with its feelings; desirous and bold and determined enough to press to a settlement all legitimate demands and requests; who will insist upon the fulfilment of promises made on the floor of the House or elsewhere; and who will do all in his power towards increasing the efficiency of the force, and in rectifying many of the abuses which exist. Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted cheque for five hundred dollars, made payable to the order of the Treasurer of the Dominion Rifle Association, which will be forfeited and applied to the prize fund in event of the member or members selected failing to fulfil their share of the contract."

As we have received some communications respecting the question of providing range accommodation at or near Wimbledon for the team which will represent Canada this year, we may as well explain once more how things stand. The matter has seriously engaged the attention of the Executive Committee of the Dominion rifle association, which has, we think, fully considered every feasible proposition. It has been suggested that the team might, prior to going to Wimbledon, be sent from Liverpool to Scotland to engage in the matches of the new "National association," and thus obtain practice, but it has been ascertained that the matches will be completed about the time the team will leave Canada. Col. Ross, now in England, has been requested to see the officers of the North and South London rifle clubs, and ascertain if practice for the team can be had on either or both of the ranges used by these clubs—one at Park, which affords an opportunity for long range practice, and the other at Nunhead, over which only the Queen's ranges can be shot. It will not be possible to obtain practice at Wormwood Scrubs, as that range has been demoralized by the construction of a huge prison directly on the line of fire, and "all the king's horses and all the king's men"—and they have been trying hard enough and spending money galore—cannot make it a safe range to shoot over, at least not until Morris' shed is adopted. The range of the London Scottish at Wimbledon cannot be used by our team, and if the mission of Col. Ross proves to be fruitless, then the range at Altcar will be the *dernier resort*. Perhaps it may be as well if the team be sent there direct, even though the cry is that practice at Altcar is not of any use for shooting at Wimbledon. Be this as it may, there is plenty of target accommodation at Altcar, the Hightown hotel is adjacent to the range, and the team can get any quantity of solid shooting, and—as of old—can measure its strength with teams from the Liverpool Rifle Brigade.

Canada cannot be accused of having yet forgotten the stirring days of which the first anniversaries are now passing in rapid procession, and throughout the country we hear of church services, parades, dinners, or some other form of public assembly in remembrance of one or other of the chief events of the late campaign. The press, too, is full of references to that time, and it is but right to say that the tone is principally one of regret for those brave men who fell in defence of law and order rather than of triumph over the victories won. The anniversaries of Duck Lake and Fish Creek, Frenchman's Butte and Cut Knife Hill are already past, and from Halifax to Winnipeg something has been done to mark each of these with its bitter harvest of Canadians cut down in all the strength of their youth.

As many questions have been asked respecting the cost of refilling the coiled shell Snider cartridges, we have made enquiries, and are

authorized to state that the price for lead bullets, caps, anvils and powder to fill one thousand rounds of brass coiled shells will be eight dollars and fifty cents; and the price of a refilling apparatus, complete for refilling brass coiled Snider cases will be fifteen dollars, all delivered at the cartridge factory, Quebec. They can be obtained on application at headquarters, Ottawa, by sending a deposit receipt to the credit of Receiver General for the amount of the supplies ordered, as is now the course in procuring ammunition.

Referring again to our statements of last week respecting Snider ammunition, we are authorized to announce that Canadian made cartridges, filled with the recently imported Waltham Abbey powder, have now been supplied to all the district stores, where they can be procured in the usual way by militiamen and officers of rifle associations; also that there will be a sufficient supply to secure uniform ammunition for the whole season's shooting.

IN THE HOUSE.

On the 27th ult., when the House was in Committee of Supply on the Manitoba penitentiary item, Mr. Cameron (Middlesex) enquired if the warden was the same person who conducted the transport service in the recent rebellion and if he received his salary while in charge of the transport service, to which Sir Adolphe Caron replied that he no doubt was allowed his pay like all other officers in the same way that several officers joined the force in Ottawa and received the pay of their respective ranks and at the same time were not deprived of their official pay in the civil service.

Mr. Cameron followed by saying that it was a decided injustice to the active volunteer force that any one should be taken out of a position like Mr. Bedson's, and given a position on the staff over many experienced officers. Posts of this kind should not be given to civilians, but to men who take an active interest in the volunteer service.

Sir Adolphe Caron replied as follows: I do not see what our camps of instruction have to do with the transport which had to be organized in the North-west during the troubles. Mr. Bedson rendered most invaluable services. He was appointed transport officer by the major-general in command. His great knowledge of the country and his great knowledge of the resources of the country were brought into play and contributed possibly more than anything else to the success of the transport service which was organized at a moment, when it was very difficult to find, outside of that country, any man who could have possessed the intimate knowledge which he possessed of the country and its resources. He was employed and paid as a member of the force, and I take this opportunity of saying that the services rendered by Mr. Bedson were considered by the major-general and the other officers in command as being most valuable. The hon. gentleman seems to consider it was overlooking other members of the force in not appointing them to that position which was held by Mr. Bedson. It is quite a different thing from giving a military command or anything in that way to a man who is not a member of the force. It was considered indispensable to have in that country men suitable—and other men were appointed who belonged to the North-west—for that purpose of making use of all the available resources of the country; and none but those who lived there could have possessed that knowledge.

Mr. Cameron then closed by saying: The question I raised was primarily the propriety of engaging a man whose whole time was being paid for by the public in one particular service to perform the duties of another and a different one for which he was also paid. There will be another opportunity upon which the other question may be more deliberately debated, and we may take issue on that. My own view is that, wherever an opportunity offers, the active militia should have all the positions which they can fill, because their experience so gained will add to their knowledge and will be valuable in the future.

On the 28th ult. Mr. Mulock interrogated the government on the vexed powder question, as to the kind and quality imported, if sufficiently tested to prove it of proper quality and more suitable than the Canadian made powder, to which Sir Adolphe replied: 7,000 lbs. of rifle fine grain powder, Waltham Abbey, specially manufactured for Snider-Enfield ammunition, have been imported lately from England. This powder has been tested at the cartridge factory with satisfactory results. This course was taken in consequence of objections found to the quality