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CORRESPONDENCE.

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COMMENT AND CRITICISM.

The elevation of the Minister of Militia and the Major-General commanding to the dignity of Knights Commanders of the order of St. Michael and St. George is hailed by the whole force of the Dominion with delight, not only because these gentlemen personally deserved the honor as a partial reward of their energetic and successful work in quelling the insurrection, but because the conferring of the titles by Her Majesty on the chiefs of the headquarters staff and field force respectively is a clear evidence that the Home Government recognizes the efficiency with which a crisis was met, and the great value of the services thereby rendered to the Empire. That such is the feeling at home is indicated by the fact that the *Broad Arrow* transferred to its columns the hope expressed by us some weeks ago that the Imperial Government would in some manner recognize the services of these two gentlemen. We congratulate both Sir Apolphe Caron and Sir Frederick Middleton on the well-deserved honor and feel assured that all the militiamen in Canada join their heartiest congratulations and good wishes to ours.

The *Mail's* Ottawa correspondent, in referring to this matter, says:—"The people of Canada, who know with what assiduity, energy,

promptitude, and foresight Sir Adolphe Caron applied himself to the duties devolved upon him as a Minister of Militia and Defence, will be greatly pleased with this mark of appreciation from the hands of our Queen. It is a well deserved token from Her Majesty as the custodian of the interests of the Empire; for with the comparatively slender resources at his command, without an organized commissariat and without transport service, Sir Adolphe Caron threw himself into the work before him, and infused his energy through the whole service, utilizing every available means to supply the deficiency of our military organization, and succeeded far beyond the expectations of his warmest admirers."

Sir Frederick Middleton, in a speech some time ago, said he considered himself the luckiest officer in the British army, and although we believe that to a great extent men make their own luck, and that without energy and ability the general would not have been now in a position to thank his luck, circumstances have certainly favored him. It is only a few months since he came to Canada as an untitled colonel, and the unexpected insurrection has since brought him a title, \$20,000 in cash and his promotion to the rank of major-general. It was understood that he attained this step by seniority, but it now appears that this also is a reward for his success. The *Broad Arrow* says: "It appears to have escaped notice that Colonel F. D. Middleton, C.B., has been promoted over the heads of Colonels Watson, Mostyn, Sprot, Lord J. Taylour and Wiseman-Clarke, to the establishment of general officer. Major-General Middleton receives this special promotion in recognition of his recent services in the suppression of the rebellion in North-west Canada, although the *Gazette* is silent on the subject. The Colonial Office intend recognizing his services by his nomination as a Knight Commander of the St. Michael and St. George."

We publish to-day the scores and prizes in the Manitoba Provincial meeting, from which it will be seen that the meeting was a most successful one, and the prizes surprisingly numerous and valuable for so new an association, and in every way worthy of the enterprise of the Prairie Province. The poor shooting in the thousand yards stage of the Patron's Cup seems an indication that long-range shooting is not much practised in Manitoba, and we think it would have been preferable to restrict the ranges to those required at Wimbledon or here, especially as the M.-H. is considered unreliable at 1,000 yards at Wimbledon. The manner of selecting a team for Ottawa commends itself, and produced an exciting contest, but we think the Governor-General's medals should not be relegated to inferior positions, but made, as in other provinces, special aggregate prizes.

Two pleasing features in connection with this meeting are the number of young shots who have come to the front, notably Cullen and Millican of the 90th, and the strictness with which the Executive have interpreted the clause relating to efficiency of militiamen. While we admit that in special cases good men and men to be counted upon