

militia at reviews and ceremonial occasions.

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The existing school cadet corps having thus been placed on something like a practical basis the department might then advantageously turn its attention to the extension of the cadet system beyond the public schools by recognizing the companies of the Boys' Brigade, if they so desire, or by establishing companies on the same principle as the Highland Cadets of Montreal in connection with the battalions of the acting militia. This scheme would of course cost money, but there cannot be the least doubt that the country would find the money spent on training its defenders in juvenile cadet corps, well spent.

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According to Truth, which professes to be an authority on military matters, there is an intrigue at the War Office to keep Lord Roberts out of any home appointment. It is stated that His Lordship has been offered and has declined both the Gibraltar and the Malta command—although the latter is not vacant—and Truth suggests that Lord Roberts ought to go to Aldershot in succession to Sir Evelyn Wood. It is just possible that "our only other General" would be disposed to accept that command, but it seems a long drop from the command of our Indian army, and it is possible that Lord Roberts has no such ambition. In the event of one of our periodical little wars the ex-Commander-in-Chief of the Indian forces would no doubt find work suitable to his abilities, but meanwhile it is somewhat difficult to provide for him. He may ultimately succeed to Lord Wolseley in Ireland, but that is a possibility only of the future.

### Election of Officers in St. Catharines.

The annual election of officers of the 19th Batt. sergeants' mess was held on Monday night, the 10th, when the following officers were elected:

Sergeant Major—W. D. Stewart.  
 President—Color Sergt. Blake.  
 Vice-President—Staff Sergt. Bramley.  
 Secretary—Color-Sergt. Pay.  
 Treasurer—Sergt. Phelan.  
 Refreshment Supt.—Corp. England.  
 Board of Management—Sergt. Houghtby, Corp. Jewess, Corp. Swayze.  
 Auditors—Cpts. Campbell and Wilson.

After the elections a very pleasant hour was spent in social intercourse, during which the mess was reported in a very flourishing condition, financially.

## Regimental Notes

### TORONTO.

Toronto, August, 10.—The assertion recently made in one of the dailies that a volunteer is compelled to salute an officer when he meets him in plain clothes on the street is putting a decidedly new construction on the rules laid down for the militia of Canada and one on which hardly any officer could feel justified in reprimanding a member of his company for neglect of such. It is questionable if any right thinking officer ever looks for such recognition and we have yet to hear of any demanding it. If the men are in uniform and meet an officer in civilian dress, then it is quite proper to salute, but to say that the salute is obligatory under the other condition is decidedly open to question and a decision in its favor would prove injurious to the welfare of the entire force.

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The Evening News of the 29th ult. devotes almost an entire column to the new establishment lists and the manner in which they effect the Toronto corps, at the same time expressing surprise that no attention appears to have been paid to them. Possibly the reason for no attention being paid to them is because no one takes them seriously enough, not believing that such a change in the opposite direction than to the one anticipated, especially in the case of the Queen's Own would be made, in view of the remarks so recently expressed as last spring by the Minister of Militia, when he had the opportunity of seeing them on parade, and seeing for himself how totally unfair it was to his corps at being kept on their old establishment. Another reason is the recent information of an increase of two guns to the Toronto Field Battery, and two to the Hamilton Field Battery upon the disbanding of the Welland Battery.

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The Grenadiers and Queen's Own are both ten company battalions, but while one seldom, if ever, parades less than 100 men over its establishment, the other seldom, unless on a special garrison parade, turns out its established strength and not even its greatest admirer can say that the Grenadiers since the additional companies were given them, are as good a corps as when they only had eight companies. If any encouragement is to be given, and any one not excepting a member of Parliament, must know that little or no encouragement has ever been given in the past, then it should be given to those regiments who are almost distinctively Canadian in their personnel, and after that to the latter formed ones who only seem to be made up of and for the admission of a certain nationality.

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Money would and could be saved by a little management in more than one quarter, but it certainly should not be saved at the expense of any of our city regiments. On them fall an exceedingly heavy

burden and if one-tenth of the country regiments or officers had to contend with the expense and disadvantages to which the city ones have come to regard as the inevitable result of having any desire to belong to a militia force, it is safe to say that a corporals' guard would represent the establishment of not a few. Both in clothing and accoutrements the force is woefully lacking, and while it is possible to get any color in an issue of clothing it is an absolute impossibility to get a man to fill properly the misfits that are turned out annually, and which are made on a model which must be a sight for sore eyes. The pruning knife may be applied and our strength as a force cut down, but it is safe to say that the city of Toronto regiments will not be the first to feel the effect of such action.

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The O. R. A. matches, of which a programme appears in another column, promise to be the most successful in the history of the association. The prize list is a rattling good one and despite the lamentations of quite a few Martini advocates, they have not been forgotten. As many matches as would be consistent with the number of Snider shots in Ontario appear in the list. The only trouble that the committee might have had, were that many three range matches, would have been in the squadding, but as it is now everything should go off without a hitch. There will be lots of trouble for the competitors if the winds that have been prevailing during the past two months, still hold sway, and many will be the excuses given for a miss in the middle of a string of bulls and inners. We have a good range, and under first class management, and which by the 21st August will be complete in detail, but the O. R. A. committee have had so much else to look after that in all probability they have overlooked many arrangements to combat the tricky rear fishtail winds for which our new Lake Shore ranges have already obtained an unenviable record.

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The combined moonlight excursion of the sergeants' messes of the 13th and 48th held on the 28th ult., proved as far as the 48th was concerned to be an exceptionally huge success. Two well filled boats left Toronto and no trouble would have been met with in filling the third. The return was from Oakville, where the excursionists met, and they reached Toronto about two a.m. and brought back a tired but well satisfied crowd.

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A match with Snider and Martini rifles between teams from the Q. O. R. and 13th Batt. sergeants' messes is on the tapis. The rifles and dates have not yet been decided but in all probability will be deferred until after the Ottawa match.

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It is understood that Dr. Ryerson, M. P. P., has been offered the colonelcy of the proposed new volunteer regiment, St. George's Rifles, in process of formation, and will accept on certain conditions. It