

parade, appear to have been merely actuated by their own good taste after learning; that the tournament organization had no military status. It appears that most of the members of the organization are not even members of the reserve, having been bought out of the service for this American enterprise. They, of course, were British soldiers once, and expert ones; but they do not wear British uniforms now because they have a right to, but because there is no law prohibiting anybody that likes from sporting Her Majesty's livery. This, of course, is a shame, but there is no help for it, as was proved by the case of the sandwich men arrested in London for wearing the uniform of the Royal Marine Light Infantry.

The Ammunition at Bisley.

Statements having appeared in the daily papers affecting the quality of the Martini-Henry ammunition issued to competitors at Bisley, it may be well to state that such reports should be received with some caution. It is almost always the case that if competitors fail to score as they think they should, the cartridges are pretty sure to be blamed, and the officials at Woolwich consequently held to be answerable. Now, as a matter of fact, there have been very few failures in this matter at Bisley this year, and the percentage on the number of shots fired is so small as to be scarcely worthy of remark. There were no doubt a few cases of miss-fire, and in one instance a competitor had no less than four miss-fires in seven rounds; an examination of the rifle, however, disclose the fact that, from snapping or some other cause, the point of the striker was defective and thus responsible for the ignition of the charge. On the whole the quality of the ammunition served out appears to have been very satisfactory, and any falling off in big scores is to be attributed to defective strikers and springs and the unpropitious weather, rather than to anything else.—Broad Arrow.

Bullet Proof Uniforms no Novelty.

Bullet proof uniforms, it appears, were known long ago to the Chinese. They were made of leather and wool in the north and paper and cotton cloth in the south of China. It seems ridiculous to call such combination armor, and yet they make an armor superior in many instances to steel. Thirty thicknesses of alternate calico and paper will resist a pistol bullet, or one from a rifle at a distance of 100 yards.

A spearman who thrusts his weapon into a man clad in this kind of garment can neither wound his enemy nor extract his weapon, and if the enemy is an archer or armed with a long sword or javelin he is likely to lose his life for his mischance.—London Tit-Bits.

Regimental Notes

TORONTO.

Major R. R. MacLennan, M.P., of Glenarry, will be present and act as judge at the 48th Highlanders' games, which are under the patronage of the Lieutenant-Governor and Mrs. Kirkpatrick. Many of the Scotchmen of Toronto and the surrounding country remember well the occasion when Mr. MacLennan contested the heavyweight competition with Donald Dinnie, the great Scottish athlete and champion hammer thrower of the world, in the year 1873. Mr. MacLennan has many warm friends in Toronto who will be pleased to meet him at the games once more.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of G Company, Q. O. R., was held last night in the buglers' rooms in connection with the coming fancy fair and military tournament, Capt. Bennett in the chair. The following were appointed a committee to take charge of affairs: Col. Sgt. Worthy, Corp. MacLean, Privates H. F. Strickland, Hardy, Parkinson and Turner.

A special to the Mail from Ottawa says: The militia force of the Dominion and indeed the Canadian public, will be surprised before very many days have passed by the announcement from Ottawa of certain appointments and changes in high places in the staff made by Major General Herbert. The stories about serious disagreements between the Major General and the Government which have been current of late are absolutely without foundation. Before the Major General left Ottawa for his recent visit to England he had outlined the greater part of the reconstruction of the staff which he intended making. Since his return he has completed his scheme of reconstruction, which your correspondent has the best authority for stating has the complete approval of the Minister of Militia and Defence and of the Government. Mr. Patterson and Major General Herbert are in perfect accord. Your correspondent has the very best authority for this statement. Its truth will be abundantly proved before very long by the official announcement of the changes in the staff. What these changes are to be cannot just now be stated in detail. Perhaps the most notable will be the appointment of an English officer, a friend of Major General Herbert, as quartermaster general for Canada. There has never yet been such an official, and now that such an important appointment is to be made it is rather likely that the general opinion among the officers and men of the militia will be that it should be given to a Canadian. As for the other changes in the staff, they will be such as to cause the greatest surprise among the military men of the Dominion. Heads are to be cut off in quarters where this high-handed process of decapitation is most unlooked for, and transferences made which will result in a rather sweeping change

of the make-up of the staff. Major General Herbert's theory that the Canadian militia should have applied to it the methods of organization and government of the British military system is a theory which has already gained for the Major General no small degree of unpopularity he has persisted in his work of carrying that theory into force and impressing it upon the constitution of the Canadian militia. The order-in-council appointing the new quartermaster general who is to come from England, has not yet been finally approved of, but the appointment has been decided upon.

I am asked to send you the following letter which appeared in a local paper: Sir,—The proposition to establish a battalion of militia in Toronto which shall be distinctly English is one which should meet with the approval of every Englishman. There are, however, one or two points in this proposed organization which are open to criticism. First, as to uniform, some of the promoters desire to adopt a grey uniform. Permit me to say that grey is not the English national colour. It is worn by the Russians and the Americans, neither of whom are looked upon as England's warmest friends. Again, it is distinctly amateurish and unsoldierly. It is not stylish and attractive to recruits, a very important matter. It is passing out of use even among English volunteers; surely we should not adopt that which they discard. It has the further disadvantage that in case of actual warfare the battalion could easily be distinguished from regular troops, with whom it might be associated, and thus be marked for especial attack. I understand that the Department of Militia has recently refused the Prince of Wales' Rifles permission to wear this dress, so there is little chance of its being permitted in this case. The British colour is scarlet; no other nation uses it. It is everywhere associated with England's glory. The "thin red line" is engraven on every Englishman's heart. Why try to substitute a grey one?

In the second place I do not think that it would be wise to adopt the proposed title, "St. George's Rifle," because there exist other corps of this name in England, Australia and elsewhere. Why not have a new and distinctive name, instead of borrowing honours? I would like to see a light infantry regiment in scarlet uniform. Would not the Duke of York (Prince George) lend us the light of his countenance?

I would therefore suggest that this new corps be uniformed in scarlet, and be styled the Duke of York's Light Infantry Regiment. Such, at all events, are the opinions of, Yours, etc.,

AN ENGLISHMAN.

The managers of the Toronto Industrial Fair have succeeded in securing the Highland Cadets, of Montreal, as one of their special attractions at the Fair. This splendid military organization will reach Toronto on September 24th, and im-