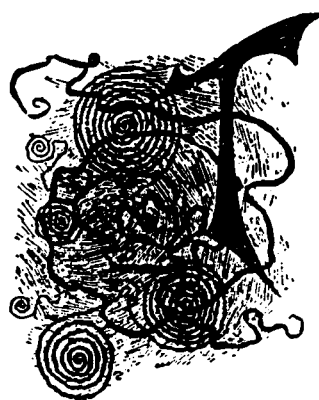


RETURN OF THE BISLEY TEAM.



HE most of the Bisley Team arrived in Montreal on Sunday morning, by the Allan Line S.S. Numidian. There was a large number of officers and men of the city corps on hand to welcome them again to Canada. The trip was a most pleasant one, and was thoroughly enjoyed by the men. They are pretty tanned with the sun and sea air, and look as if they had thoroughly enjoyed the roast beef of old England.

In conversation with a MILITARY GAZETTE reporter, Lieut. T. Mitchell, who has been a representative on various occasions, said that from the time they left until they returned it had been a most pleasant trip. Their popular commandant, Lieut.-Col. Starke; Major Bruce, adjutant; and Capt. Wilson, quartermaster, would not, he said, return until the end of the month. "We have seen reports in the papers about defective ammunition. Is it correct that it was bad?" "There is no mistake about it," said Lieut. Mitchell. "I am of opinion" he continued, "that as in all probability this is the last year the Martini-Henry will be used at Bisley, the authorities had gathered in the ammunition from different parts, and they must have, in some cases, emptied the packages and mixed the different cartridges of different years, because they got different years' ammunition in one package. The worst objection, however, was the fact that in many cases the cartridges contained no wax wad, consequently there was a space of about half an inch between the ball and the powder, which would mean a drop of about 100 yards." Continuing, he said that the officers in command did everything that was possible to make things pleasant for the team, and to make their journey a success, and went to a great expense to further this object. Next year, the rifle used will be the Lee-Metford, and already the volunteers are being served with them; but the Canadians will have to shoot with the Lee-Enfield. The weather was very warm, and the Canadians felt it pretty badly, as the atmosphere hangs lower, and there was none of that fine, clear air which makes Canada so conspicuous as a health resort. He said that the volunteers belonging to England and Scotland felt it more than they did. They had rain only one day, but the weather was very much against good shooting, and, as a result, the scores all over were two or three points lower on the average in every match than last year. The total amount of prize money was the largest yet won by any Canadian team, being close on \$6,000. There were three of the team in the final for the blue ribbon, which was very satisfactory, considering that there were about 3,000 volunteers shooting at Bisley. The men individually did remarkably well.

"I suppose you had a good time while in camp?" "Yes," said Lieut. Mitchell, "but the night we won the Kolapore Cup was the best. The camp was kept alive that night with Canadians and others who wished to congratulate the team on their splendid victory. The London Scottish volunteers sent over an invitation for the team to attend a 'smoker.' Headed by pipers from the regiment and a number of officers, they marched to the quarters of that regiment and had a real 'high' time."

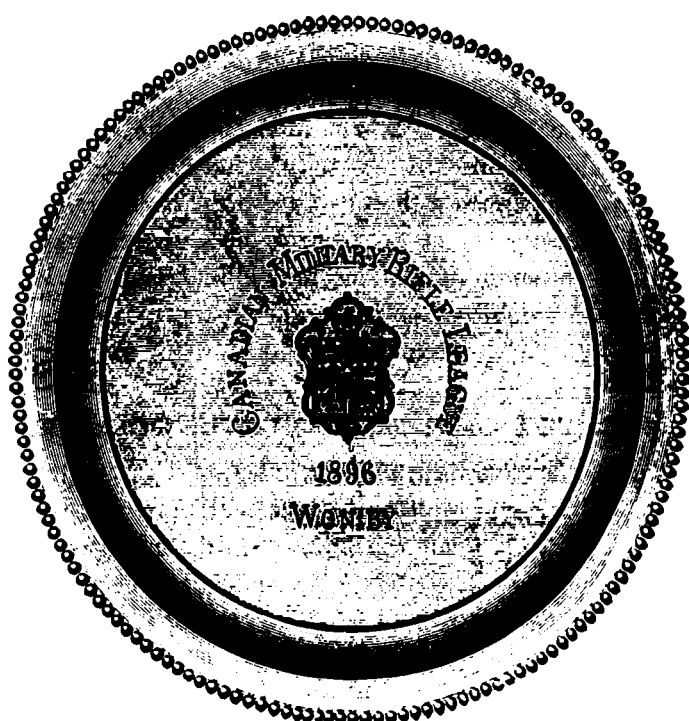
Lieut. Mitchell said that the Canadians are the most popular team that go on the Bisley range. It did much towards the furtherance of Canadian interests, for, as he remarked, they mixed among and talked with men from all parts of Great Britain, and gave them to understand that Canada is a far more go-ahead country than many people think it. Their camp was ever crowded with visitors, and the right hand of fellowship extended on every occasion. Continuing, he said there was just one drawback, and that was the

want of permanent quarters. If they had such, it would not only be a comfort to the team, but it would also add to the importance of the country. He hoped that the Liberal Government would not belie their name, and be liberal enough to see to the erecting of permanent quarters before next year. This THE GAZETTE has often advocated, and when the need of such quarters comes from such old stagers as Lieut. Mitchell and others who have been on the team, it is about time that the Government took the matter in hand.

At the close of the meeting the team had a farewell, at which Lieut.-Col. Starke, the commandant, was presented with a handsome oak writing cabinet, Major Bruce, the adjutant, with a traveling dressing case, and Capt. Wilson, the quartermaster, with a dressing case. Every one of the team speaks most highly of the officers, and says they did everything in their power to make the visit a success. This they were successful in doing, for it was one of the most pleasant trips ever undertaken by a Canadian Bisley team.

A matter that is causing some talk among the team and others interested is the furtherance of a scheme for the team that goes to Bisley next year to accept the invitation held out by the Australians for a team to visit that place. No doubt the Government will give it serious consideration; but if the matter was taken up by some of the influential officers and others interested in volunteering it would in a great measure not only draw the colonies closer together from a friendship point of view, but would also help to further trade between the two countries, as interests would be awakened in this way which would otherwise lie dormant. We are strongly in favor of such a scheme, and trust that the day is not far distant when we will see teams from Australia and Canada meeting together alternately in shooting.

As will be seen in another report, the members of the team who have arrived took part in the P.Q.R.A. meet.



One of the team plates to be awarded at the D. R. A. meet. This fine plate was given by Simpson, Hall, Miller & Co., of Montreal.

GENERAL NOTES.

Messrs. John Martin, Sons & Co., military tailors, Montreal have been appointed agents for the celluloid collar. This article will be found very useful to military men, and as they are the regulation style should be looked after by officers in the militia.