

## Dominion of Canada Rifle Association.

## SEVENTH ANNUAL PRIZE MEETING.

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The next event upon the programme was the firing for the McDougall Challenge Cup which brought to the fore 124 entries, being thirty six more men than competed last year. The sun, as they commenced shooting, shone out brilliantly, but the wind got up in a brisk manner from the westward, and the marksmen had to change their tactics considerably while taking their aim. The first range was finished just as luncheon was announced by the sharp bark of the nine pounder on the hill, in front of the Secretary's office. Col. Gilmour had deputed Col. Macpherson to dispense the hospitalities on his behalf, in the spacious marquee, which was by courtesy, termed the Council Tent, and a goodly number of guests sat down to one of mine host's, Kavanagh's best repast. Col. Macpherson occupied the chair, having on his right Mr. J. M. Currier, M. P., and on his left Dr. Grant; the vice chair was taken by Major White, supported on his right by Major Macdonald, and on his left by Asst. Surg. Macdonald, of the Welland Field Battery. Among others present were noticed Mr. Grant Powell, Mr. George Brunel, Mr. John Brunel, and several other gentlemen who had received invitations. After the good things had been disposed of, and it did not take long to perform the operation.

The chairman in a few terse sentences proposed the "health of Her Majesty the Queen, God bless Her." The toast it need hardly be said, was responded to in the most enthusiastic style, three rousing cheers greeting its announcement.

The Chairman then rose and said he had a toast to propose which could not fail to find the heartiest response they could give, he alluded to Mr. J. M. Currier, the member of Parliament for the city of Ottawa, (applause.) He said Mr. Currier both in his private capacity and in his public, had always evinced the greatest interest in the affairs of the Dominion Rifle Association, and he was most happy to see him present with them, on the occasion of its annual meeting, in order to give his countenance to the proceedings. They (the Association) were to a great extent, together with the volunteer force generally, dependent upon Parliament for their maintenance and encouragement, and foremost among those who advocated their claims on the floor of the House was Mr. Currier—(hear, hear) he never omitted when opportunity offered to forward the interest of the militia of the country; therefore, he would without further remark ask them to drink the toast with all the honours, as they were fully deserved (cheers.)

The guests then, after giving three times three in rousing cheers, announced to the world at large, or at least that portion of its inhabitants who were within hearing, that Mr. Currier was "a jolly good fellow," and each one defied his neighbour to disprove the truth of the assertion.

Mr. Currier, who was received with considerable enthusiasm, said he thanked the Chairman for the kindly manner in which he had proposed his health, and the complicity for the hearty style in which they had received and drank the toast. Though, as he had told them before, he was not a volunteer, he always felt a pleasure in rendering all the assistance that lay in his power to advance their interests. He has fully appreciated the self sacrificing spirit of patriotism shown by the volunteers of this

country as any one; he had always, in his capacity as a member of Parliament, been in favour of the supporting of the militia system, and the maintenance of it with the utmost vigor, and he should always vote in favour of such supplies as were indispensable to the keeping up of the Canadian army in its fullest state of efficiency. He thought the Dominion Rifle Association were fortunate in having a President and a Vice President so able and willing to entertain in such a handsome manner the riflemen who came to the city. Col. Gilmour was one of Ottawa's oldest citizens, and also he thought, one of her oldest volunteers, and no one could take a greater interest in all matters pertaining to volunteering than he (the Col.) did. (Cheers.) For Col. Gzowski there was no occasion for him to say anything, for they all well knew what he was. (Cheers.) After again thanking them for the honour they had conferred upon them, Mr. Currier resumed his seat amid great applause.

Dr. Grant rose to propose the next toast. He said that it gave him much pleasure in rising to propose the health of a gentleman who had on all occasions rendered his best assistance to the Association, both his time and his means always being at its disposal. (Cheers.) He (the speaker) complimented the Volunteers of Canada on the fame and reputation they had acquired, both in this country and the old; they had received the praise of all their fellow marksmen for their skill, which was not only a credit to themselves, but to the whole Dominion. The gentleman whose health he was about to ask them to drink, had done much to encourage the military enthusiasm of the Volunteers of Canada, and to whom much of the credit was due for its present efficient state. (Cheers.) With him, he must also allude to the support rendered by Mr. Currier, M. P. Such men as these were worthy of being justly termed the friends of the force—(applause)—and they encouraged the people of the Dominion to depend upon the force, as a defence from the assault of an enemy. He looked upon the militia force as being the nucleus. It was but a few weeks ago that he had the pleasure of witnessing a review of the Grand Army of France upon the Bois de Boulogne; they were a fine body of men, but still it seemed to him that they lacked the physique of the Canadian volunteers, and the latter might feel proud of the comparison. The French were a fine, well disciplined, body of men, but he thought the nucleus he had spoken of would, in time to come, be quite equal to the troops he had alluded to in every respect of efficiency. After again alluding to the exertions made on behalf of the gentleman whose health he was about to ask them to drink, he called upon them to drink heartily the "health of Colonel Gilmour and long life and prosperity to him." (Prolonged cheers.) Of course, "For he's a jolly good fellow" followed, the gentlemen leading off that lyrical expression of their feelings in most stentorian tones the song was caught up along both sides of the table and no one at the upper portion was more anxious to do justice to the sentiment than the gallant Chairman, Col. Macpherson.

The last named gentleman, in rising to respond on behalf of Col. Gilmour, said he was sure the Vice President would, had he been present, done much more justice to the toast than he could, but he should take an early opportunity of informing him of the very enthusiastic manner in which the well deserved encomiums passed upon him by Dr. Grant had been received. He could only

thank them in the name of Colonel Gilmour for the honor they had done him. He could assure them that no one connected with the Association took more interest in its affairs than did their Vice President; he (the speaker) as Treasurer could state with all confidence that whenever he had had any transactions with Col. Gilmour he had always been most ready to render his aid in a most substantial manner (hear hear), and whatever was wanted, he was ready to give. He again thanked them on behalf of Col. Gilmour, who, he was sure, would be most gratified at the kindly mark of their regard for him. (Applause.)

Col. Beer then gave the toast of Colonel Brunel, the inventor of the very excellent target and system of marking—in use at the present competition—and he characterized it as being the very best that could be devised.

The toast having been duly honoured.

Mr. George Brunel returned thanks on behalf of his father whom, he said, would have been much gratified at hearing the very flattering testimonials given on all sides as to the efficiency of the invention.

Mr. J. M. Currier, M. P., then proposed the health of Col. Macpherson, who had so ably filled the office of Vice President in the absence of Col. Gilmour.

Col. Macpherson, in responding, which he did briefly, said it had given him great pleasure to be present at the competition, which from its commencement had been characterized with the greatest success, and he hoped the latter would attend it to its conclusion. He thanked them most sincerely for the manner in which his name had been received.

The luncheon then came to a conclusion, and the firing commenced for

THE MCDUGALL CHALLENGE CUP—VALUE \$500  
PRESENTED BY MRS. P. L. MCDUGALL.

Open to all efficient militiamen in the Dominion of Canada, being members of the Association. Efficiency as in the Dominion Match. The Cup to be the property of the member winning it twice consecutively.

Ranges—400 and 600 yards. Five rounds at each range.

Any competitor not scoring eight points at first range to be disqualified.

Enfield or Snider Enfield Rifles. Government ammunition. Entrance free.

124 entries. The following are the scores of the first four:—

Sergt Mitchell, 13th Batt, winner of the Cup.....	44
Sergt Cotton, G G F G.....	42
Sergt Loggie, 11st Batt.....	41
Sergt Perkins, do.....	40

At the close of the match, the Hon. the Minister of Militia, accompanied by Colonel Walker Powell, A Lieutenant General, arrived upon the ground, and evinced a considerable interest in the shooting.

The next was

PROVINCIAL MATCH—FOR LONDON MERCHANT'S CUP—WITH \$150 ADDED BY THE ASSOCIATION.

To be shot for by five competitors from each Province, to be selected by the Provincial Association, or its duly accredited agent. Where there is no Association, the selection to be certified by the Senior Staff Officer in the Province to which they belong. Names of the five men per Province to be given in to the Secretary on or before noon of second day of the meeting. Efficiency and certificate same as in Dominion Match. 1st prize, to highest aggregate score