

others. That was wrong. What did they get all their faculties for? We were commanded to love one another. The Rev. Canon referred to the recent naval review and spoke of the way the British seamen had conducted themselves, which was the result of strict attention to duty and discipline. So long as war was inevitable we should be prepared to defend our country. The time would come when the last battle would be fought and they would be called upon to give an account of their stewardship to God. They were not to be selfish, but to help the needy and protect the weak. Lieut.-Col. Houghton, D.A.G., marched between Lieut.-Col. Starke and Major Sims.

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Mr. W. W. Ostwald is the last gentleman to accept a commission in the Victorias.

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The Vics on Saturday afternoon 27th, proceeded to Fletcher's Field, where they put in some hard work at the attack drill. It was well done, despite a storm of rain.

F Co., Royal Scots, shot their May monthly for the spoons presented by Capt. Geo. Cameron, Saturday 27th, with the following results:—

	200	400	500	Tot.
	yds.	yds.	yds.	
Sergt. Munn	16	18	21	55
Sergt. Mason	14	28	27	69
Corp. O'Neill	12	12	7	31
Pte. Rowe	27	25	16	68
Pte. Dumba	20	26	13	59
Pte. Foster	4	14	8	26

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The Prince of Wales Rifles shot their monthly spoon competition in connection with the League match Saturday 27th, as follows:—

	200	400	500	Tot.
	yds.	yds.	yds.	
First class:—				
Col.-Sergt. Cooper	25	26	30	81
Second class:—				
Capt. Finlayson	22	28	25	75
Third class:—				
Staff-Sgt. Donaldson	14	28	24	66

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The staff of the Fifth District camp at Laprairie will be composed as follows:—Lieut.-Col. Houghton, D.A.G., Lieut.-Col. Mattice, Supply Officer; Major Roy, Brigade Major; Major Radiger, Musketry Instructor; Dr. Mayrand, P.M.O.; Capt. Young, Camp, Quarter-Master.

The "Vics" Inspection.

The series of inspections of the Montreal city corps has opened auspiciously, the Third Battalion (Victoria Rifles of Canada) having led off by passing on Saturday the third instant, perhaps the best annual inspection in its history. It was certainly as good an inspection as has taken place on the Camp de Mars for many a year; in fact many good authorities declare it to have been the best; but that is an open question; There is an unanimous verdict that the inspection was a good one, and that much more than the usual commanding officers share of credit belongs to Lieut. Colonel Starke, who not only worked hard all year to get his battalion into good shape, but on the parade ground Saturday handled

his battalion in a way that was a perfect revelation of cool-headedness and a thorough familiarity with the intricacies of drill. The parade state was as follows:

Three field officers, five staff officers, sergeant-major and 7 staff sergeants, Maxim gun detachment, Lieut. Mackeand, one sergeant, one corporal and ten privates; No. 1 company, Captain Stewart, two subalterns, four sergeants and 28 men; No. 2 company, Captain Badgely, two subalterns, and four sergeants and 26 men; No. 3 company, Captain Meakins, two subalterns, four sergeants and 32 men; No. 4 company, Captain Rodden, one subaltern, four sergeants and 29 men; No. 5 company, Captain Guy, one subaltern, four sergeants and 29 men; No. 6 company, Captain Ogilvie, two subalterns, four sergeants and 38 men; ambulance corps, 7; brass band, 28; pioneers, 7; buglers and drummers, 21. Total, 314.

It is almost unnecessary to say that the men turned out well, with uniforms well put on, and accoutrements clean and bright; the "Vics" can always be relied upon to do that. The brass band has undergone a transformation, and turned out in regulation uniforms for the first time in many years. The physique of the men was very good, particularly as to height. In number six company there cannot have been more than a couple of inches difference in the heights of the flank men and of the files in the centre of the company; and a fine, tall lot of young fellows they were. Number three was another well sized company.

The battalion marched on to the Camp de Mars in fours, simply halted, fronted, took open order, and was ready for the inspecting officer, Lieut.-Col. Houghton, D.A.G., of the 5th. Military District. They did not have long to wait, and the battalion had not been long standing at ease before being called to attention again. But for one or two slow rifles and a slow sword the salute would have been perfect, as it was it was a very pretty one. After the ranks had been closed the line was thrown back into column, but the forming was a little ragged, the men having hardly settled down to their work. A minute inspection of the ranks by companies followed. Next was the march past. Going past in column the distances were most accurately kept; in quarter column only indifferently so. It was remarked too that the command "eyes right" when approaching the saluting point was generally ignored by the men. There was a trifle of unsteadiness in the left of the rear rank of No. 1 company as it went past; No. 2 preserved a good front, and No. 3, a very good one. No. 4, line was good, but some of the men did not hold their heads up and consequently the helmets were out of dressing. Both 5 and 6 went past in practically perfect style. There was some unsteadiness in the leading companies, namely 6 and 5 after the battalion was marched off in quarter column, but by the time the saluting point was reached all had picked up the step, the lines had been accurately dressed, distances had been corrected to the last inch, and the regiment swept past the inspecting officer, amid the well deserved

acclaims of the delighted spectators, with all of the precision of some mighty machine. It was a grand piece of marching.

The march past at the double was pretty well done while the formation of line to the left on the rear company was capital. Then Lieut.-Col. Starke showed what he, himself, and his men were made of. He took hold of them for battalion drill and showed his familiarity with his work by keeping them on the move from beginning to end.

Major Sims next put the battalion through the manual and firing exercise, which were excellently done, after which Major Busted took command and manoeuvred the battalion. The companies were then put through the manual and firing exercises and company movements by their respective captains, the inspecting officer watching closely. After the roll had been called, it being nearly six o'clock, a move was made for Fletcher's Field for attack drill, and also a miniature sham battle with a small detachment of Royal Scots under command of Captain Ibbotson. On arriving the men were allowed a few minutes' rest. When the regiment had been called to attention, Lieut.-Col. Starke, made a short speech, telling the men that the enemy was supposed to be entrenched on the other side of the hill, but in what particular spot he was unable to point out, as they could not be seen. The men were extended and a detachment sent across to the quarries to reconnoitre, which they did, afterwards returning and forming the reserve. The Maxim gun was also sent along by the fence past the Golf House, where they took up their position and opened fire in the direction of the enemy, under cover of which the regiment came up. The enemy had taken up a position behind the hillock close to the orchard near the small-pox hospital, which, owing to the descent from the rising ground beyond the Golf House, made it a very strong position indeed and one in which an attacking force would have several casualties before regaining cover or achieving victory. Any one familiar with the ground is aware that from where the defenders took their stand there is a descent to the mountain road which winds around a small hill on the way from the city. Here Lieut.-Col. Starke showed his strategy by sending a detachment under command of Captain Badgely to out flank this hill by the road. The attacking line, having now reached the top of the hill, opened a rapid discharge of independent firing on the enemy and the Maxim gun kept up a galling fusillade. The Vics then charged the enemy, who retreated to the road, where they were preparing to make a stand.

After the Vics had reformed Colonel Houghton addressed them as follows:—Col. Starke, officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Victoria Rifles. I have great pleasure in congratulating you this afternoon on the able manner in which you have gone through your inspection. I was very well pleased from beginning to end, I have not given you the highest number of points in all the movements, but, taking it altogether, it