

Capt. F. C. Wuzela, 25 Jan 02

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EDITORIAL NOTE.

The CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE will in future be published in Montreal. It will continue to give a weekly summary of all news relating to the military forces of Canada, and items of interest and use to all branches of the Service. The practical aid of every officer is essential to make the paper a success; if sufficient encouragement be given it will be enlarged and well illustrated. Commanding officers are earnestly requested to arrange that items of regimental news be sent in for publication.

All communications should be addressed,

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE,
P. O. Box 387,
Montreal.

"GRIP" AND THE MILITIA.

The following appeared in the last number of *Grip*:—

GROWING INTELLIGENCE OF THE MASSES.

SIR,—On Thursday evening last I happened to be passing the factory of Firstbrook Bros., King-street east, and was grossly insulted by a gang of hoodlum employees who happened to be standing in the archway of the building, who used every insulting epithet they could possibly level at me. This, I may say, is a common occurrence in the city to those wearing Her Majesty's uniform, and it is high time some notice was taken of it by the civil authorities. Yours, etc.,

Toronto, April 29.

A SOLDIER.

This is one of the most encouraging indications of the growth of a healthy public sentiment on the subject of militarism that we have noticed for a long time. The masses are beginning to recognize instinctively that the red-coated loafer, who, in order to get an easy living undertakes to do any dirty work in the way of butchering his fellow men that a corrupt and rascally government may have on hand is only deserving of contempt and insult. The "hoodlums" know that they are taxed to keep up a set of swaggering dudes and conceited popinjays whose uniform is the symbol of their readiness to become murderers at the word of command. They know too that in the case of any civil disturbance they themselves might as likely as not be the victims. Why should they not let these swash-buckling bullies know what they think of them? We admit that it would perhaps show a little better taste to refrain

from epithets, and treat the passing soldier to a philosophical disquisition on the wickedness and absurdity of the military system, but there are obvious difficulties in the way, and possibly the "hoodlum's" rough and ready fashion of giving utterance to his opinions is the only one adapted to the barrack-room stage of intellectual development.

The above may possibly be intended as a joke, but if so, the workmanship is very clumsy. Giving the writer the benefit of the doubt, such an item is in the worst possible taste, and thoroughly discreditable to the paper. Even the poorest of the comic journals of England or the United States would never permit such a ghastly attempt at unpatriotic humor to disgrace their columns; and it comes with especially bad grace from a concern which immediately after the rebellion of '85, did its utmost to turn to its personal advantage military sentiment in Canada, by publishing and selling a series of highly coloured illustrations of the fights in the North-West. It requires all the energy and ability of the editorial staff of *Grip* to make that paper what it professes to be, a comic one; and we should recommend them to stick closely to this endeavour, avoiding painful attempts to be funny on subjects which do not concern them and of which they evidently know little.

THE RIFLE.

A large muster of Toronto shots enlivened the ranges on Saturday afternoon last, comprising representatives from the Queen's Own, the Royal Grenadiers, the 12th, and the Davidson Highlanders; considering the time of year the shooting was unusually good. Among the members of the last mentioned corps some very fair scores were made; the new Sniders which have been served out are well spoken of. It is more than probable that a strong regimental team will take part in this season's matches. Major Macdonald, Capt. Macdonald and Capt. Robertson were on duty, Sergt. Harp acting as instructor.

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The annual rifle match of No. 5 Company, 8th Royal Rifles, was held on 3rd inst at the Beauport Flats, and

was a success in every way. In the first-class, Sergt. Hay, Staff-Sergt. Dewfall, Sergt. Hartley and Pte. McHugh took prizes in order as named, while in the "green" class, Pte. Donovan was first, followed by Pte. Lattimore, Pte. Landrigan and Pte. Meadows.

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The annual meeting of the St. John County Rifle Association, was held in the Fusiliers' hall, a few days ago. The attendance was good. The accounts of the year were passed. A committee, consisting of Capt. Thompson, Lieut. McAvity and Col.-Sergt. Henderson, were appointed to arrange for tenders for the repair of the range. The following council of ten was appointed: Majors Hall and Hartt, Captains McRobbie, Thompson, Hartt and Smith, Lieuts. Manning and McAvity, Col.-Sergt. Henderson and Staff-Sergt. Lordly. The council will meet shortly to choose a president and secretary. The interprovincial rifle match will be shot on the range on June 8th.

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The Governor General's Foot Guards commenced the season's shooting last Saturday with the first of the "spoon" competitions. The first-class shots used the Martini, the second and third class, the Snider. Weather was decidedly unfavourable for good shooting. Those scoring over 50 were:

Staff-Sergt. J. A. Armstrong.....	85
Pte. J. N. Ellis.....	79
Col.-Sergt. G. A. D. Mailleue.....	70
Staff-Sergt. F. W. Dawson.....	63
Staff-Sergt. McCarthy.....	61
Pte. F. A. Morse.....	60
Pte. Firth.....	52
Pte. G. A. White.....	52

It is said that the Guards will enter five teams for the League matches.

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From the North-West we learn that the Duck Lake Rifle Association has its new range completed and the new targets in position; they are quite an improvement on the old ones, the sliding being substituted for the revolving target. The association expects to show up well in the North-West Rifle League matches this season.