

FROM MONTREAL.

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

The return match between the Grand Trunk ten and the 8th Battalion of Quebec Volunteers, takes place at Point St. Charles on Monday next.

At the Grand Trunk Rifle tournament at Point St. Charles, last Saturday, the following score was made for Mr. Brydges' Cup.

3 shots at each at 200, 400 and 600 yds.

Pts.
Sergt. Talfer, No. 1 Batt. Artillery Mount 33
" Roote, G. T. Artillery Brigade
Toronto..... 32
" Turnbull, G. T. R. Rifles Toronto. 28

Both Sergt. Talfer and Sergt. Roote made splendid shooting as 36 was the highest possible score. The cup passed from the hands of Sergt. Turnbull who won it last year, as it must be won by the same person two years in succession to enable him to claim it as his own property. The band of the Grand Trunk Brigade played during the match and the day being fine everything was favourable.

All the Volunteers in the city are now paid off, so that that cause for grumbling has been removed. The Grand Trunk Railway, Richelieu Co. and the Ottawa Navigation Co. have generously reduced their rates to all Volunteers travelling in uniform to compete at the coming Provincial Match.

A correspondent of the *Daily Witness* attributes the miserable failure of the recent review in this city to the want of clothing in the first place, and in the second place to a feeling of disgust at the dilatory management at the Militia Department. After giving a cut at Sir G. Cartier, lamenting the want of common sense in the departmental officials, he winds up by saying, "if Sir George would be a little more liberal in his views, and let the Volunteers see that he has their interests and comforts in view, they would turn out in good numbers and no repetition of Friday's work would occur."

The *Witness* comes out strong in an apology of Sir George, and thinks he is already too liberal, and for that reason the treasury upon which he has to draw is empty. It also recommends the drilling of youth at schools, &c., and calls the present Volunteers but skin and bone of the once plump and gay battalions. Pretty hard on the Volunteers I must say but there is a good deal of truth in it. If we are to have a Volunteer army by all means let us have one, and let not things be done by halves. What we require is a complete and efficient staff of officials, not such as we have at present, for the greater part a lazy, know nothing lot, where only duties are dress, ease and conviviality. If there are not sufficient funds on hand to meet expenses let some further provision be made, and as a help dismiss at once at least one half of these puppets, whose arrogance and pomposity are only equaled by their ignorance.

The hard worked clerks and subordinates are receiving starvation pay, whilst their superiors (?) draw a princely allowance. We want a complete reform in these matters and more encouragement to the brave Volunteers. To procrastinate about clothes and pay is the height of meanness and folly, and this is one of the chief grievances of the Volunteers. There is something also lamentably deficient in the efficiency of officers generally; either the Military School is not exacting enough, or the passed officers are very stupid when in public, or such ridiculous cases as witnessed in last review would never have taken place.

The Instructors of the Military School are rightly or wrongly accused of partiality and favoritism, and certainly many examples of passed cadets could be pointed out to verify this fact, as they are notoriously incapable, but one fact should not be lost sight of, namely, steady drill in order to keep them up to the mark. To pass the school is not all that is required, they are comparatively raw, they have got their lesson and it is for them to learn it. There should be more battalion drills than there are, many go all *au fait* in company drill and probably know the routine of Battalion drill, but so very seldom have they a chance to practice that when they are to put their men through as battalions, they lose their confidence and bungle. Steady drill is absolutely necessary to keep officers well up in their duties.

T. O. Brown, Esq., official assignee of this city, late Gen. Brown of the Confederate army, for whose head a large reward was offered by the Federal Government during the last rebellion, comes out strong in his ideas of independence in a letter which the *Witness* inserts without comment. Mr. Brown argues that we were fools not to accept the situation long ago, as we will eventually be part and parcel of the blessed Union, with the stars and stripes, emblem of liberty (?) floating over us. His saying that Great Britain held Canada after the independence of the Colonies merely as to be "a thorn in the side" is a piece of sheer nonsense to any one versed in history. Did the Canadians ever express a wish to link their fortunes with the Yankees, and on what authority does Mr. Brown speak? He would have us step over independence and walk right into the arms of our sympathizing (?) friends across the borders. Mr. Brown is evidently dissatisfied with this country; he should leave it and fly to that land of piecrusts and greenbacks he so much admires, where the mighty eagle soars in majestic, etc., etc.

Ingratitude is a fault often laid to the charge of the Militia Department, and certainly a case just come under my notice would still strengthen the impeachment. It is a maxim, none will deny, that long service coupled with faithfulness and integrity deserves some consideration, and in this matter it is best to be plain and open, letting facts

speak for themselves. Mr. T. H. Clayton has been officiating as Asst.-Paymaster for the past three years, during which time he has faithfully performed all the responsible duties his position entailed. During the late Fenian raid Mr. Clayton traversed whole sections of the country with large sums of money in his possession, to pay off the country battalions, and in his work then and at other times he has elicited commendation from all. Some six months ago he was notified that no provision would in future be further made for Asst.-Paymasters, with that Mr. Clayton goes to Ottawa and on a personal application was induced to retain his position on the pledge that on the return of Sir George Cartier, his position would be confirmed. On Sir George's return this matter was referred to him but so far Mr. Clayton has not received any satisfactory answer; in the meanwhile he has been without pay for six months. Now I cannot believe the department would, after learning facts, wilfully ignore his claim under the circumstances; in any case let him be paid for the work he has done. Mr. Clayton has at all times performed his duties faithfully and honourably, and without being asked for any security. He has had the care and control of large sums of money and I am sure all who know him will agree with me that his ability and adeptness to his late position renders him a valued governmental servant, and it is to be trusted that the consideration he deserves will be shown to him.

Col. Dyde is to be presented with his portrait soon.

A correspondent to the *Herald* suggests in the coming association matches on the 24th inst., that a match be got up for Volunteer Cavalry only. And, why not?

It is asserted that Prince Arthur will occupy as a private residence the house of the Hon. John Rose here; retaining the domicile in Dalhousie Square for military quarters. B.

THE VICTORIA RIFLE CLUB.

To the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW

DEAR SIR:—Fortune has again favored the Victorias. On Saturday the 14th inst. the return match between them and the Toronto Club took place resulting in a signal victory for the Hamiltonians, their majority being 39, a marked increase upon their majority in the match held on 31st ult. A glance at the score shows that the Toronto marksmen were one point ahead at 300 yards, were only five behind at 500 yards, but fell rapidly behind at 700 yards. It is rather a strange circumstance that a miss was made in each of the seven rounds by the Toronto men at 700 yards, on their own range, and on the ground nearly all their misses occurred at the same range. Messrs. C. R. Murray and T. Freeborn who usually take a foremost place in the ranks of the V. R. C., were both suffering from severe indispositions and