

Personal Notes.

Major Drury, R.C.A., was in Montreal recently, and took part in the curling bonspiel as one of the Kingston players.

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Lieut.-Col. G. T. Denison, Governor-General's Body-Guard, has been elected President of the Imperial Federation League of Canada.

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Capt. T. D. B. Evans, of the Canadian Dragoons, Winnipeg, is one of the team from the Winnipeg Hockey Club which is having such a successful tour in Ontario and Quebec.

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Mr. J. M. Barrie, the young and distinguished *litterateur*, thus writes about Captain Lugard, who is guarding so well British interests in Africa. A Norman knight of the historic type, which founded the kingdoms of England, Portugal, Cyprus, Jerusalem, Grand Canary, and the two Sicilies. Small, wiry, keen-eyed, with a strong jaw, and an intellectual forehead betokening the masterful Norman ability for grappling with seemingly insuperable odds as they turn up. There is something about the mouth and nostril which humanitarians might dislike unless they happened to be in Africa surrounded by armies of the (cannibalistic) aliens. If he lives, he may prove an African Clive, unless, like Clive, he succumbs to the irrepressible domestic foe of Imperial greatness.

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The present commander-in-chief of the Moorish army is an Englishman. Kaid Maclean was formerly a subaltern in the Sixty-ninth regiment. Leaving the British service some years ago, the Emperor of Morocco entrusted him with the duty of re-organizing his army, and he did it so well that he was confirmed in his appointment as military adviser, and has held the position ever since.

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Prince Alfred of Edinburgh will enter the 1st Prussian Regiment of Foot Guards on April 1st, next. Major von Bulow, of the General Staff, has been appointed instructor to His Royal Highness. It is to be regretted that a foreign army has been chosen for the Prince's education; surely the service of his own country is good enough.

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The heroes of the Crimean war are fast going over to the majority. Among the latest to go is: Lieutenant-General William Hill, eldest son of the late Colonel Sir Stephen John Hill, who died at 93 Sutherland Avenue, London, W., on December 23, aged 56. General Hill entered the army at the age of 17, was a captain at 19, a major at 24, a lieutenant-colonel at 26, a colonel at 32, and a major-general at 42. He served with the 95th Regiment in the Eastern campaign of 1854-55, including the battles of Alma, where he carried the colours, and Inkerman, siege of Sebastopol, and sortie on October 26. He served for about four years on the West Coast of Africa. There he saw much active service, and at the storming and destruction of the stockades and war fences at Madonkia on December 19, 1861, he was severely wounded. He greatly distinguished himself by the prompt and energetic measures he adopted on his own responsibility for the suppression of the mutiny which broke out in the Gold Coast artillery, and was also on several occasions called upon to administer the civil government of Sierra Leone in the absence of the Governor.

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Another is Colonel T. W. Marten, who died in London on January 18. He served with the 7th Royal Fusiliers at the siege of Sebastopol, from June 17, 1855, including the assaults of the Redan on June 18 and September 8, on which last occasion he succeeded to the command of the regiment, led it across the ditch of that work, and subsequently brought it out of action. He also served in the Indian North-West Frontier War of 1863 with the Eusofzye Field Force. Col. Marten was the head of the Sussex family of that name, which has been settled in that county for 600 years.

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Capt. James E. Johnson, of No. 2 Company 21st Essex Fusiliers, of Leamington, is being urged by his friends to accept the candidacy of the Liberal-Conservative party of South Essex for the Dominion Parliament. Mr. Johnson has been President of the Liberal-Conservative Association for some years, and was mayor of the town.

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Capt. Edouard Beauset, late of the 65th Battalion, Montreal, died recently. He served with distinction in that corps during its arduous service in the North-West in 1885. He was only 35 years of age, a barrister by profession, and highly respected by all who knew him.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DOMINION CARTRIDGE FACTORY.

To the Editor of THE CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE:

DEAR SIR,—The Commission of 1885, on which I had the honor to serve, was called by Government to report on the manufacture of Snider ammunition at the Dominion Cartridge Factory at Quebec, and recommended the adoption of the brass coiled shell, charged with best R.F.G. powder, made at Waltham Abbey, and also some ameliorations in the bullet, and charging of the shells. These recommendations have been carried out and our Snider ammunition gives entire satisfaction. This is not an *anti-quoted* cartridge but a vast improvement on the paper covered one made at Woolwich, besides the variation of two grains plus or minus in the weight of the charge, as allowed at Woolwich, has been reduced at the Dominion Factory to one-half grain, making it a superior cartridge in every way to the English one. Had the report of this Commission been published, it would therein be found that the mechanical work, materials used, machinery, the factory itself, and the mechanical staff were all highly commended. These mechanics, with the exception of the foreman, are all Quebec people. Since that time a shell factory has been added and is turning out good work; also, Martini-Henry ammunition is being satisfactorily made. In fact the whole factory is in good order, running well and is a credit to the place. Therefore it does seem incomprehensible that the Minister of Militia should wish to transfer this industry to Toronto—but he is not a Quebec citizen. It cannot be from economical reasons, for it is well known that labor is far cheaper in Quebec than elsewhere; if that was not the case, why are the shoe factories not transferred to the West, where comes the bulk of their orders. Here is a factory in perfect running order, situated on ground owned by Government; surely the Minister must know the enormous expenses attached to its removal, viz.: purchase of ground, erection and fitting up of buildings, cost of taking down and putting up the machinery, besides transportation. But there is another most important reason why this factory and all military stores should remain in Quebec: Toronto is an open city and free to any naval or military expedition from the United States; on the other hand, Quebec is a fortified city, and, moreover, accessible to H. M. fleet, which is an important item of defense. There can thus be no valid reason for the removal of this industry, let alone the loss to Quebec. It behooves our Members of Parliament to stir at once in this matter and not rest satisfied until this removal of the Cartridge Factory is cancelled and an end put to all further meddling by the militia authorities to the detriment of Quebec.

F. C. WURTELE,
Capt. R. L.

Quebec, February 25th, 1893.

In a long distance marching competition between ten squads of the Royal Irish Rifles, each comprising a non-commissioned officer and 8 men, the winning team accomplished the journey in 4 hours 37 min. and 15 seconds, or at the rate of 4 miles 2 furlongs 140 yards per hour, one of the best, if not the best on record. The longest time occupied by any of the teams was 4 hours 57 min., which gave average of over four miles an hour. The average rate for the whole of the teams was 4 miles 1 furlong and 109 yards per hour. The greatest enthusiasm was aroused throughout the battalion by the competition.