

lain of the regiment. The Minister of Militia was given a hearty reception as he appeared upon the platform. The ceremony of laying the corner stone was opened by the Rev. Canon Ellegood offering prayer.

Lieut.-Col. Crawford then addressed Sir Adolphe Caron as follows:—"Honorable Sir, owing to the extreme cold weather I will not detain you at any length, but permit me, on behalf of the Victoria rifles, to thank you for your kindness in coming down here to-day to lay the corner stone of our new armoury. I also beg to present you with this trowel, which I hope you will keep as a slight memento of the occasion." The trowel is of solid silver, and bears the crest of the regiment, with the following inscription: "Presented to Sir Adolphe Caron, K.C.M.G., by the Victoria Rifles of Canada, on the occasion of his laying the foundation stone of their new armoury, Montreal, December 4th, 1886." The whole is encircled with a maple leaf border; the handle is of ebony, having at the end a silver beaver, bearing a golden maple leaf branch.

The following articles were placed in the stone:—A copy of the charter, service roll of the officers, service roll of the reserve corps, service roll of the companies, service roll of the band, copies of the English and French daily papers of Montreal, copies of the MILITIA GAZETTE and the Militia List, one of the invitation cards, copy of the invitation of the Natural History society, some of the regimental forms, coins of date, a bushy plate and a helmet plate. The package, containing the above having been deposited, the stone was lowered to its position by Sergts. Stewart, No. 1 Co.; Bowden, No. 2; Adams, No. 3; Scott, No. 4; Walker, No. 5, and Gardner, No. 6, Sergt.-Major Rodden giving the word of command.

Sir Adolphe Caron, having declared the stone well and truly laid, said:—Colonel Crawford, officers and men of the Victoria Rifles, I can assure you that it gives me great pleasure and gratification to have been able, through the kind invitation of your commanding officer and your battalion, to come here to-day and testify to the interest which I take in the militia force of Canada. One of the most important pages of our Canadian history contains the deeds of our militia force. Whenever it has been called upon to keep the peace at home or to repress attacks from outside, it has always been ready to do so at the shortest possible notice, in defence of its Queen, its country and the institutions under which we live. It has been a pleasure for me to watch how the different corps which constitute that force work up in their profession, in order to be able to attain that position which as a Canadian I am proud to see it occupies to-day. Only a few months ago it was my privilege to be in England, and to hear old English officers speak of the deeds of our Canadian volunteers, and they were proud to consider that if ever called upon the militia force of Canada would be ready to help the Imperial forces in defending the Queen and protecting that vast and every-day growing colonial empire, which is becoming one of the most important parts of the British possessions. Colonel Crawford, I have, as I said before, watched the development of our Canadian militia, and no corps constituting a part of that force can boast of having given more time, more energy and more thought, to have tried by every means that could be adopted to develop the efficiency of the corps than the Victoria Rifles of Canada. You have always striven by every means possible to maintain the efficiency which has always characterized your corps, and it has made to-day one of the first regiments in the whole Dominion. You have made that *esprit de corps* without which no militia force can exist, and if it were not for that *esprit de corps* you would not have been able to proceed with the construction of what I believe is the first armoury which has ever been built by any corps in the country. In this armoury you will find that accommodation, that means of meeting together which will make you, if possible, more efficient than you are to-day. I wish to tell you that, as a Government and as Canadians, we hail every effort which is made by the militia force of Canada to increase its efficiency, and I can say that whenever the Victoria Rifles has been required to show that efficiency, it has done so in such a manner as to be a credit to the corps itself and to the country at large. (Applause.)

Mr. J. J. Curran, M. P., being called upon, delivered a brief speech highly eulogistic of the Vics.

The regiment then marched back to the armoury and deposited their arms, after which they, together with their lady and gentlemen guests, repaired to the Natural History rooms, where refreshments were served and the museum of the society inspected.

The following circular explains the particulars of a novel feature of the Vics. regimental bazaar opened yesterday: The Victoria Rifles of Canada will hold a bazaar here on the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th of December next, the proceeds of which will be devoted towards the erection of their new armoury now under construction. It is intended during this bazaar to open a poll at which voting will take place for the most popular regiment in Canada (the "Vics" not included). The votes will be 10c each. Twenty per cent. of the proceeds to be expended in purchasing a trophy to be presented to the winning regiment, or otherwise disposed of as they may elect. The result of the voting will be made known daily through the associated press. Votes may be remitted to Capt. Bacon, postoffice box 105, Montreal, or to any one whom voters may elect to act for them, on or before the dates of the bazaar. The following gentlemen have kindly consented to act as a committee to superintend the voting: Major Blaiklock, 5th Royal Scots; Capt. Howard, M.G.A.; Capt. Clapham, Cavalry; Lieut. Hooper, M.F.B.; Lieut. Ostell, 65th Batt.; Lieut. Scott, 1st P.W.R.; Lieut. Chambers, 6th Fusiliers; Mr. L. D. Sims, ex-Sergt.-Major V.R.C.

Dundas.—An assault-at-arms and band concert given by the officers of the Seventy-seventh battalion, and the Hamilton field battery, took place at the skating rink in Dundas, on Thursday last. A Hamilton paper says: It was a decided success as far as the performance went, but the attendance was very slim. Almost half of the crowd was from Hamilton. A squad of picked men from the battery under Instructor Kerley, Sergt.-Major Wholton, Qr.-Mr. Sergt. Madgwick, and Sergts. Fearnside, Coombs and Trumball, performed several evolutions. The first was the sword exercise, which was excellently done, the squad moving as one man. This was followed by standing gun drill, which consisted in placing the gun in position, getting elevation, loading and firing at different ranges. Gun wheel disabled drill followed, in which the wheel is supposed to be injured and has got to be replaced by a wheel from the front truck to supply the place of the disabled one; this manoeuvre was rapidly executed, the wheel being taken off and replaced on the truck before the spectators could comprehend what was being done. In the lance drill the men were gunners Brumm and Harrison, trumpeter Crines, and Sergt.-Major Wholton. When it is remembered that the men had only half an hour's preparatory drill, they acquitted themselves very creditably. There was a short intermission. The Taylor brothers engaged in a friendly bout. It was the feature of the evening, if one could judge by the interest taken in it. The Dundas man, William, was apparently in the best condition, and showed slightly the better science of the two. The entertainment was closed by dismounting gun and carriage and slinging gun drill. The gun was taken from the carriage, slung underneath it, drawn around the rink and remounted. During the evening the Seventy-seventh battalion band played several pieces, which were much enjoyed by the audi-

ence. It is too bad that the entertainment was not a financial success, as the boys worked hard and deserved more liberal patronage.

Charlottetown, P.E.I.—The *Patriot* says: A very interesting and friendly shooting match took place at Montague range on Wednesday the 24th ult., between eight men from Capt. Fraser's company, Montague G. A., and eight men from Capt. Henderson's company, 82nd Batt. Ranges 200, 400, 500 and 600 yards; seven shots at each range. Owing to the lateness of the season and a very strong cross wind, the scores were not up to the average. At the close of the match the scores stood as follows: Capt. Fraser's team, 622; Capt. Henderson's team, 644. The composition of the teams were as follows: Capt. Henderson's—Capt. Henderson, Lieut. Ferguson; Lieut. Hooper, Staff-Sergt. Allan, Sergt. McMillan, Sergt. Hooper, Pte. Henderson, Pte. Stewart. Capt. Fraser's—Lieut. White, Sergt. Johnson, Sergt. McLaren, Corpl. Stewart, Gr. Mellish, Gr. Robertson, Gr. Lemmon, Gr. McGregor. The visiting team were very hospitably treated by Capt. Fraser and his men.

The Target.

Hamilton.—The annual rifle practice and matches of the 13th Batt., were completed on the 20th ult. The *Spectator* has the following report: The junior shots of the regiment put in their practice under the directions of musketry instructor Capt. Adam and Sergt. Omand, and although some of them have never fired a rifle previous to this season, quite a number of them have acquitted themselves very creditably. Considering the inclement state of the weather during the time of the practice—it being sometimes very wet and at other times cold and snowing—it was not to be expected that the shooting would be as good as it would have been had the match taken place during more satisfactory weather. Owing to the destruction of the rifles of the battalion at the burning of the drill sheds there has been no rifle practice during the season, so that the battalion has labored under more than ordinary disadvantages this year. A Co. has again maintained its position by winning two cups, namely, the junior cup, presented by the Meriden Britannia company, and the officers' cup. C Co. takes the non-commissioned officers' cup, is second in the junior contest and ties A Co. for the second place for the district cup. Being composed of nearly all young shots, C Co. deserves credit. The district cup was won by E Co. with a score of 110 points, which was good shooting considering it was done through a blinding snow storm. The score of Pte. David Mitchell was the highest ever made in this match. It is hoped that the endeavor of Lieut.-Col. Gibson to bring the 13th battalion up to a high state of efficiency in the use of the rifle, which part of the education of a soldier he considers the most important, will be successful, and that in this he will be ably seconded by the officers and members of the regiment.

MATCH NO. 1—200 AND 400 YARDS,

10 shots at 200 yards and 5 at 400. Seventy prizes, value \$200.50. For men who had never won a prize of \$5 or over.

Pte. Smith, G Co.	33	17	50	Pte. Nichols, D.	23	7	30
Pte. Hopper, A.	33	17	50	Pte. G. Curran, B.	24	6	30
Pte. Athawes, A.	32	16	48	Pte. Armstrong, H.	27	3	30
Corp. Meadows, D.	28	19	47	Pte. Hopkin, C.	19	10	29
Pte. Best, G.	30	17	47	Pte. W. Butler, G.	19	10	29
Col.-Sergt. Harris, G.	34	13	47	Color-Sergt. Walters, H.	20	9	29
Corp. T. Battram, C.	22	22	44	Sergt. Brittingham, G.	20	9	29
Pte. Wigmore, A.	26	18	44	Pte. Horsepool, B.	21	4	29
Pte. G. Diamond, E.	29	15	44	Pte. Cornell, C.	20	8	28
Pte. Wilson, F.	25	17	42	Pte. S. A. Moore, D.	23	5	28
Pte. H. Hooper, E.	29	13	42	Pte. Clark, A.	26	2	28
Corp. Heming, G.	31	11	42	Pte. Biby, F.	16	11	27
Pte. Tuck, H.	31	11	42	Pte. Barnard, D.	21	6	27
Corp. Norley, C.	33	9	42	Pte. E. F. Tansley, C.	21	6	27
Sergt. Stannard, A.	31	10	41	Pte. J. Martin, H.	21	6	27
Corp. Bettles, B.	30	10	40	Pte. Silk, C.	13	13	26
Pte. L. F. Rohmer, G.	25	14	39	Pte. H. Beckett, B.	18	8	26
Sergt. W. Harris, C.	32	7	39	Pte. F. A. Martin, H.	18	8	26
Pte. M. Goodwin, A.	37	2	39	Pte. Ray, A.	22	4	26
Pte. Hamilton, F.	33	4	37	Pte. R. G. Freeborn, E.	17	8	25
Corp. Allen, G.	21	15	36	Pte. Ball, G.	18	7	25
Pte. Anderson, C.	29	7	36	Pte. F. Burns, B.	23	2	25
Pte. Henning, F.	28	7	35	Pte. Hibbard, A.	23	2	25
Sergt. Stewart, C.	18	16	34	Pte. Waddell, G.	23	2	25
Pte. Mephram, C.	32	2	34	Pte. Kingston, G.	11	13	24
Pte. Pattetson, D.	21	12	33	Pte. Ross, F.	20	4	24
Pte. Rogers, E.	22	11	33	Pte. Coddington, A.	22	2	24
Pte. Edgcomb, A.	23	10	33	Pte. Russell, D.	9	14	23
Pte. Eaton, A.	23	10	33	Pte. Ashum, G.	12	11	23
Pte. Britt, D.	20	12	32	Pte. Watson, H.	10	12	22
J. W. Greenley, B.	24	8	32	Pte. Cleares, B.	11	11	22
Pte. Scott, C.	26	6	32	Pte. Bull, F.	13	9	22
Pte. G. Moore, E.	26	6	32	Pte. Westbury, D.	16	6	22
Sergt. Baker, H.	27	5	32	Pte. Tintling, F.	22	0	22
Pte. Madgett, B.	20	10	30	Pte. G. Diamond, E.	6	15	21

MATCH NO. 2—200, 500 AND 600 YARDS.

Five shots at each. Thirty-five prizes, value \$205.50.

Five shillings at each.				Thirty-five prizes, value \$203.30.				
\$20 and D. R. A. medal, Pte.				Pte. Filkin, C.	15	9	9	
D. Mitchell, E.	17	13	18	48	Pte. Osborne, A.	19	9	3
\$15 and O. R. A. medal, Staff-				Pte. Burnistown, D.	16	12	2	
Sergt. Pain, C.	18	13	14	45	Pte. Harvey, A.	16	9	4
Capt. Adam, A.	19	15	10	44	Col.-Sergt. Miller, D.	21	6	2
Pte. D. Henderson, C.	19	17	6	42	Pte. J. Mitchell, E.	21	7	0
Staff-Sergt. Margetts, A.	19	9	13	41	Lieut. F. B. Ross, B.	17	5	5
Staff-Sergt. Clark, B.	12	17	12	41	Sergt. A. Bismark, A.	20	2	5
Color-Sergt. Murdock, B.	17	9	13	39	Pte. L. Ely, B.	10	15	2
Pte. A. Murdock, C.	19	11	9	39	Pte. Webb, E.	21	4	2
Pte. P. T. Robertson, E.	15	10	13	38	Sergt. Madgett, B.	2	13	10
Pte. H. Maris, D.	21	8	9	38	Pte. Parkhill, A.	17	4	4
Corp. Bettles, B.	16	16	6	38	S. M. Woodhouse, D.	16	5	3
Lieut. Tidswell, A.	18	15	5	38	Col.-Sergt. Omad, A.	17	0	6
Sergt. W. M. Goodwin, A.	18	7	12	37	Pte. McDougall, B.	8	7	0
Major McLaren	21	8	7	36	Pte. Albrecht, G.	5	5	0
Capt. Zealand, C.	18	12	6	36	Pte. J. Ely, B.	5	2	0
Pte. H. Graham, E.	20	6	8	34	Pte. G. J. Dunn, B.	2	4	0
Staff-Sergt. Zealand, C.	15	13	6	34				

MATCH NO. 3—THE JUNIOR CUP,

Ranges 200 and 400 yards, 10 shots at 200 yards and 5 at 400. To be competed for by four members of each company, previously named, simultaneously with match No. 1. Competitors to be qualified to shoot in match No. 1. The company winning this cup for the second consecutive time, to hold it in permanent possession.

A Company.				G Company.			
Pte. Hooper	33	17	50	Color-Sergt. Harris	34	13	47
Pte. Athomes	32	16	48	Corp. Allen	21	15	36
Pte. Wigmore	26	18	44	Sergt. Brittingham	20	9	29
Sergt. Stannard	31	10	41	Pte. Kingston	11	13	24
	132	61	183		86	50	136