

largest, if not the best, brigade of active militia, in the Dominion, and it deserves to be made as comfortable as possible. Without a garrison recreation room this it cannot be."

Quebec.

#### THE EIGHTH ROYAL RIFLES.

The annual Turkey Match held under the auspices of the 8th R.R. Rifles Association was fired at the "Beauport Beach" rifle ranges on Saturday, the 29th December, and was well attended, notwithstanding severe weather of the day, a very strong cold west wind blowing all afternoon; quite a number of outsiders including members of sister corps, officers on retired list and civilians taking part. The following is a list of prize winners at the several ranges: It will be seen that the scoring was very good for winter shooting. The ranges being 100, 200, 400 and 500 yards, five rounds at each, standing being the position at the 100 yards, which range was introduced in place of the 600 yards, it being impossible to fire the longer distance, owing to the change made in the range by the crossing of the St. Ann's Railway.

100 yards—1st, J. Dewfall, 20; 2nd, W. H. Davidson, 20, 3rd, J. R. Mountain, 19.

200 yards—1st, J. Dewfall, 20; 2nd, E. G. Scott, 20; 3rd, A. Tomson, 20.

400 yards—1st, W. H. Davidson, 24; 2nd, J. G. Goudie 23; 3rd, R. Hartley, 21; 4th, A. Thomson, 20.

500 yards—1st, E. G. Scott, 22; 2nd, J. G. Goudie, 19; 3rd, A. Tomson, 18; 4th, G. H. Parke, 18.

Aggregate—1st E. G. Scott, 80; 2nd, J. G. Goudie, 78; 3rd, A. Tomson, 76; 4th, R. Hartley, 70.

Lowest Aggregate—A. J. Learnmoth, 29 points; prize a goose.

Greatest number of Bull's Eyes—1st, E. G. Scott, 7; 2nd, J. G. Goudie, 5.

#### Noted Military Men.

The late General Sheridan's standing at the United States Military Academy during the four years in which he took rank was 38, 34, 27 and 34, the class numbering about fifty; his graduating rank in a class of fifty-two being 34. In a list of cadets in the Academy varying from 208 to 224 he stood in conduct in the several years in their order, 74, 135, 111 and 69.

#### VON MOLTKE AND HIS SUCCESSOR.

Had the Marshal Von Moltke remained at the head of the staff until October 29 he would have held his post just thirty-one years. The creation of the Prussian staff dates from 1821, and during this period of sixty-seven years it has had only four chiefs. This permanence of the scientific head of the army is undoubtedly one of the principal causes of Germany's military power. The new chief of staff is the "irritable Waldersee," as the Chancellor once called him. The Count Waldersee is fifty-six years old, intelligent, ambitious, and has, through his wife, great influence with the Emperor. During the Franco-Prussian war he was chief of the Duke of Mecklenburg's staff, and since then he has been attached to the general staff, rising to be quartermaster-general, or second chief. Considered by Von Moltke as his successor, he has been carefully "coached" by the old general, and knows all the secret plans of his master. He was married in 1874 to Miss Lee, of New York, who was then the widow of the Prince Frederick of Schleswig-Holstein, and aunt, by marriage, of the present Empress.

The constant duty of Von Moltke while he was chief of staff has been to prepare for war in all directions. His theory has also been that an army should be constantly on a war footing, and able to defend the country without outside aid. He has always been in favor of crushing France before she gets too strong, believing that Germany, with her Austrian and Italian allies, is powerful enough to defeat Russia and France combined. Besides, has he not declared that war is a blessing, that it keeps up the noblest sentiments in man's soul and repairs injustices? At the Reichstag he pursues a policy of masterly silence and it is only when army matters are under discussion that he ever says anything. He does not mount the tribune, but speaks from his seat, the long finger of his right hand stuffed between the buttons of his almost threadbare coat, upon which continually shines the decoration of the iron cross; his left hand leaning on the back of his chair. He speaks slowly, clearly and correctly. The voice is dry, distinct, sonorous. He speaks as well as he writes, and the books that he has published are written in marvellously clear and sober style.

Notwithstanding his great age, eighty-eight years, the Marshal carries himself easily, and seems a well-preserved man in spite of his

deafness and liver trouble. Tall and lean, he is slightly bent; his smoothly-shaven face has the colour of old ivory; the tall brow is surmounted by a blonde wig, although he has had the courage to have his portrait painted without the peruke, so that posterity may see what a cranium he had; two gray-blue eyes, deep, cold and penetrating, look at you almost cruelly; the lips are thin, and the nose long, straight and strong; long, muscular ears, and a small and closed mouth—which is a sign of discretion if not of taciturnity. You feel, in looking at this "melancholy Dane," that you have before you not only a powerful soldier but a superior man; a meditative mind, however, rather than a brilliant one.—*Rodolph Frey in the Epoch.*

#### GREAT BRITISH GENERALS.

"Melton Prior," of the *Illustrated London News*, replying to the *World*, speaks thus of our present great Generals: In case of a war into which England would be drawn, Adjutant-General Lord Wolseley would undoubtedly be in command of field operations. After him, Sir Frederick Roberts is best worthy of consideration.

General Sir Frederick Roberts proved himself a hero in Afghanistan. He led that famous quick march from Cabul to Candahar. In Burmah he won more laurels, quelling decisively and thoroughly those brave and bigoted outlaws, the Dacoits. General Roberts is a small man, with heavy dark moustache and grizzled hair. He is about fifty-five years old, keen-eyed and impressive. General Roberts is very fond of ladies' society.

Of General Roberts it is to be said that he, as well as nearly every one of the British generals hereinafter mentioned, is at that ripe age of discreet activity which a commander reaches between fifty and sixty years of age.

Major-General Brackenbury was Lord Wolseley's military secretary. He served gallantly in the Ashantee war and wherever Lord Wolseley commanded. When General Earle was killed up the Nile, General Brackenbury brought Earle's column safely back through the perils of the cataracts. He is a big, stout man, stern, very solemn and reserved. General Brackenbury looks every inch a soldier, and has black beard and moustache.

General Sir Evelyn Wood is a little man who won his Victoria Cross in the Crimea. He has the misfortune to be very deaf, and has several times come near losing his life from that infirmity. At Slobane, just before Ulundi, in South Africa, General Wood didn't hear the Zulus behind him, and would have been massacred but for his aide-de-camp. He has, however, a very observant eye, and a merry disposition, and is a very keen soldier. He has light moustache and beard, gray hair, and is what might be called stumpy in figure.

General Sir Archibald Alison has only one arm left. Mr. Prior has seen him in battle at Amoafu and Ramleh, with his good arm wounded and riding like a demon, his bridle reins between his teeth. General Alison is red-headed, tall and thin, and wears red whiskers and moustache.

General Sam Brown is another one-armed commander. He distinguished himself in the Afghan war. He is quite gray, and wears long beard and moustache.

General Willis is a tall thin blonde, of cheery disposition and great gallantry. He was conspicuous at Tel-el-Kebir, and, like most commanders, wears moustache and whiskers in the field.

Prendergast, the great Indian general, is very tall and brown. He wears dark long beard and moustache, and was highly commended for his famously rapid march up the Irrawaddy to Mandalay. He so confused the Burmese by his quickness that he got to the capital before they had time to kill their European prisoners.

Major-General Sir Redvers Buller is a big tall, surly fellow, very stern and reticent. He wears dark beard and moustache, and was in charge of the volunteer cavalry as colonel during the Zulu war. General Buller went up the Nile and brought back General Stewart's column in safety, through severe fighting, after that gallant officer met his death.

These are all gallant and tried commanders who have won their spurs, and are sure to come to the front of the British armies in their next war.

A novelty in the advertising line has just been issued by J. C. Ayer & Co., the Standard Family Medicine people of Lowell, Mass. It consists of a bound volume of almanacs—their own almanac for 1889 in twenty-one languages. The book has been distributed gratuitously, the editors throughout the country being amongst those favoured. The Ayers have some good things to sell, and believing in printers' ink themselves, they use it liberally to create a public belief in their medicines. And the enormity of the business they have thus built up, may be comprehended when the immense cost is considered of this one of many forms of advertising, the issue of an almanac in twenty-one languages,