

unable to see its way to a recurrence of the visit. There is no doubt that if it were possible to have these friendly contests from year to year in England and Canada alternately it would do much to interest the public and incite our own men to increased efficiency.

Four years in succession the Association offered a prize for the best essay written by officers of the Militia on Military subjects. The first year the prize, a medal presented by His Excellency the Earl of Dufferin, was won by Lt.-Colonel Montizambert; an essay written by the late Lt.-Colonel Oscar Prevost received *honorable mention*. The second year the prize was won by Lt.-Col. Holmes, an essay by Lt.-Col. Cotton receiving *honorable mention*. The third year no award was made—essays submitted not being, in the opinion of the judges, of sufficient merit. The fourth year there was no response made to the circular issued. After two years of failure it was decided to discontinue the competition. Could not such a competition be made interesting to the graduates of the Royal Military College—there is room for literature on military subjects?

At a General Meeting held on the 4th March, 1885, Major (now Sir Francis) de Winton, R.A., Military Secretary, stated "that His Excellency the Governor General, (Marquis of Lorne) had desired him to state to the Association that he fully recognized the necessity of fostering the Artillery Arm, and that with a view of assisting in so doing he would give a Cup to be competed for in such a way as the Council may decide." At a Meeting of Council, held subsequently, it was proposed by Captain McCrae and seconded by Major (now Lt.-Colonel) Macdonald "that His Excellency be requested to sanction the Cup presented by him being held for the year by the Officer Commanding the most efficient Field Battery, such efficiency to include gunnery knowledge, discipline, drill, target practice, etc."

From this originated the present General Efficiency Competition. His Excellency the next year, donating a second Cup for competition by the Garrison Artillery. The first Cup for Field Artillery was won by the Battery commanded by Captain McCrae, then known as the Ontario Field Battery, now the 16th Field Battery or No. 2 Battery, 1st Brigade, Field Artillery.

Reference to the details of these competitions will show how far reaching they are—entering into every detail, theoretical and practical, they are calculated to test the qualifications of all ranks with minuteness. The desire to occupy a place well up on the list has always necessitated a careful attention to everything in connection with the personnel, horses and equipment of a Field Battery and similarly with different details in the case of the Garrison Artillery. It is not to be wondered at, then, that to be the winner of His Excellency's prize for General Efficiency has been