

sience of those panderers to the worst passions of their dupes. That the defamers of His Royal Highness have lied for the worst and vilest of purposes is beyond a doubt, and the great heart of the English people is stirred to avenge him so that this fearful dispensation will have at least a compensating benefit in awaking the attention of the people to the designs of those traitors who would violate every precept of divine and human law in pursuit of their selfish ends. The good son of a good mother, on his bed of sickness and maybe of death the English people feel and appreciate his virtues and will take signal vengeance on those who dare to slander him, while their earnest prayers are directed for his recovery in which they are joined by all his sorrowing people.

The greatest misfortune which could befall any country would be the unrestricted licentiousness of the Press, which must arise in all cases from its blind devotion to party and personal interests, to the utter ruin of all patriotic feeling. We are happy to say that in Canada at least all the representative organs of all classes have preserved a high tone of patriotism and shown a commendable desire to sink class and party interests in favor of any questions affecting the general interests of the Dominion. It is almost too much to expect that humanity will at once rise to the grandeur of considering political questions apart from personal predilections and feelings, but there are institutions belonging to the state which should never be affected by the actions of its political factions. The first and chief of those is the army; the interests of society demands that it should be outside local, political influence and on no account dragged into or made a tool of party strife. The people of Canada must learn especially to discriminate between their duty as soldiers and citizens, as they must fill both positions alternately, and must be trained to forget the privileges of the latter in discharging the stern duties of the former. In order to prepare our people for those double functions the aid of an enlightened press is necessary, and although occasionally attempts have been made to create a little party feeling at the expense of discipline, on the whole the duty has been fairly and honorably performed.

Amongst the few who have allowed their party prejudices to overcloud their judgment we are sorry to see that very able journal the *Acadian Recorder*; in its issue of the 15th inst., it has an article devoted to prove that the prizes awarded at the annual target practice of the Canadian army was rather to be ascribed to favoritism or the blunders of the Militia Department than to actual merit, and it adduces as proof that "the Battalion Prize for the 20th Regiment is given to Private Dodds on a score of 42, while Private Hyde of the same corps made a score of 51 points, and the District Prize for No. 9 Military District, has been awarded to Pte. W. Colburn, of No. 8 (River Philip) Com-

pany, Provincial Battalion, for a score of 49; while Sergt. Connors, 63rd Battalion, scored 51, and Corp. Stenhouse of the same corps, 50 points, thus placing Colburn not first but third upon the list."

We are not at all concerned in the remarks made by the *Recorder* or the reasons given for the course alleged to be pursued, but can simply tell that journal that it has either been labouring under a misapprehension or has falsified the record for the most contemptible of purposes. The General Orders of 30th Nov., shows that Private W. Dodds of 2nd Company, 20th Battalion, won the Battalion Prize by a score of 42 and the Company Prize by the same score. That Private Hyde of No. 6 Company, same Battalion, won the Company Prize by a score of 51, and that the company competition for the Company Prize is different from the battalion competition for the larger prize. That Private W. Colburn, of Port Philip, won the prize of his company at company competition, and that of Military District No. 9 at the competition therefor, and that Sergt. Connors, of the 63rd Battalion, won the prize of that Battalion at the competition and Corporal Stenhouse of No. 1 Company, won the Company Prize at the competition therefor. There can be no excuse for a journal of the standing and ability of the *Recorder* misrepresenting so simple a matter; the desire to injure a political opponent is no reason at all to urge in favor of a course calculated to excite discontent amongst the soldiery of the Dominion or for falsifying plain records. The Company, Battalion and District competitions are each separate and distinct, there has been no blundering at Ottawa and no interference with the military administration of the Dominion, but the *Recorder's* article is calculated to deceive men who have not access to the *Gazette* and is, therefore, mischievous. We trust in future our able contemporary will appreciate the old motto "Ne sutor ultra Crepidem," and refrain from misrepresenting what he does not understand.

SOME of our correspondents, animated no doubt with the very amiable motive of advocating the right to consideration of the officers and men of the Volunteer force composing the first expedition to Fort Garry, took exception to the praise bestowed on the successful issue of the second, and endeavoured to prove that it was a mere pleasure expedition compared with the first. Without in the slightest degree detracting from the well earned reputation for courage, ability and endurance of the officers and men of the first expedition, we are satisfied that the last was by far the most trying and desperate, and are able to give our readers, in support of that view, a synopsis of a diary by Mr. W. H. Anmond, Supply officer to the last expedition, from the *Manitoba* of the 2nd inst. Mr. Anmond accompanied the first expedition, and he says "it was a mere pleasure excursion compared to the last.

We will take up the diary at Thunder Bay. On the 25th Oct. Capt. Fletcher and 100 men marched in a heavy snow storm for Shebandowan, Major Scott and the remainder of the expedition left on the 26th, severe snow and sleet the whole way. On 27th Captain Fletcher's command crossed Shebandowan and camped on Kashabowie Portage. 28th, Major Scott's party embarked at 4 p.m., and reached the Portage at 8 p.m. The tug boats on Kashabowie and Lac des Mille Lac were rendered useless by bursting their steampipes, the snow was over a foot deep, bitterly cold, and the boats had to be portaged and rowed to Height of Land on the 29th through a heavy snow storm; boats portaged here over a mile. Crossed Lac des Mille Lac on the 30th boats had to be forced through half a mile of ice nearly an inch thick before Bird Portage was reached; weather bitterly cold and camped for the night on Bird Portage. From this day the sun was not visible for a week. On 31st crossed Lake Baril, passed Baril Portage, Little Cedar Rapids and camped at French Portage, the men during the greater part of the day working in ice water, shoving boats over sand bars. On the 1st Nov., after a most fatiguing day working down French Creek, across Keogosegoock Lake and the Pine Portage, the expedition camped on Deux Rivier Portage, the whole day was spent under a heavy snow storm. On the 2nd they had to break the ice on the Creek and after lightening the boats they were run over the Maligne Rapids, the expedition camped at the second rapid on that river. On the 3rd the troops encamped at First Loon Portage, and it is remarked that they had a good night's rest, a rather unusual occurrence on this expedition. On the 4th the boats were repaired and the men were obliged to work in ice and water all day on Loon River as it was frozen and shallow, and it occupied nearly all next day to get them through. On Sunday, 5th, Nemaquan Lake was crossed and Kettle Falls Portage reached; this is a new route by which Deer and Bear Portages are avoided. The 6th was lost waiting for the rear division to come up, and on the 7th the boats left in tow of a tug, crossed Rainy Lake against a head wind, reached Rainy River after dusk, ran two rapids safely and camped at Fort Francis at half past eight o'clock. On the 8th the Rainy Lake Tug having been portaged into Rainy River, there were three tugs to assist the expedition from Fort Francis to the north west angle of the Lake of the Woods—left the fort at noon and camped at Manitoa Rapids. On the 9th got to Hungry Hall, at the mouth of Rainy River, but could not venture on the Lake of the Woods owing to a severe gale. At one o'clock, a.m., on the 10th, embarked to cross the Lake, the tugs and boats were in line fastened to each other with tow ropes; there were three tugs and eleven boats. At three o'clock, a.m., the expedition was obliged to put into the Sandy Islands where it remained till five o'clock, p.m., when, once