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CORRESPONDENCE.

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Comment and Criticism.

THE feature of the week has been the Provincial rifle matches in Quebec and Manitoba, of which the former has just been concluded, and the latter is to begin to-day. Reports received from Montreal indicate that the Quebec provincial meeting has been a most successful one, and the results of the first day's shooting are at hand, but we prefer keeping them over for a week in order to give the whole meeting in one number for convenience of reference. The scheme of throwing all the matches open to the Dominion and of bringing all the events within the compass of two days has had the desirable effect of increasing the entries about fifty per cent., upon which the management are to be congratulated.

WE publish with pleasure a letter from an esteemed correspondent asking very pertinently why Colonel Powell's services as Adjutant-General during last year's rebellion have not ere this been in some way recognized. The great value of Colonel Powell's unceasing exer-

tions at headquarters at that critical juncture are universally admitted, and we feel sure they have not been officially overlooked, but the delay in officially acknowledging them is at least unfortunate, and it is to be hoped that some action will be taken in the matter at no distant date. This is not the first time allusion has been made in these columns to this subject, and a fitting recognition now of the Adjutant General's share in last year's success, to say nothing of the claims of some of the permanent officials, would be hailed with delight by every militiaman in the Dominion.

OFFICERS of the British Army are now in Canada purchasing horses for the home service, and have arranged to visit at least some of the more important exhibitions and fairs in various districts with that end in view. In at least one instance at an exhibition prizes have been offered for the best horses adapted for army use, the officers to attend and make purchases if possible. Now does there not seem to be a good chance here for developing an important industry in the North-West? Thousands of horses are required annually for the British service alone, and the demand is more and more exceeding the supply every year. Horse-raising is profitable and cheap on our prairies, and with due attention to breeding a suitable grade of horse a large business in this line should be capable of development.

WE reproduce from the *Broad Arrow* a very severe arraignment of the Martini-Enfield rifle, and if one-half the charges therein made against it can be substantiated, we may even regard our old Sniders with a certain amount of comparative satisfaction. A rifle that kicks badly is ill-calculated to produce good shots from the raw material, no matter how flat its trajectory may be, and complicated sights must, if possible, render confusion worse confounded to the recruit. It will probably be considered heresy to suggest that the English authorities might get some points from their American cousins in the matter of sights and breech actions, to say nothing of changing the length and crook of the stock; but, nevertheless, if a half-breed hunter or a Boer were given his choice of the best English or the best American rifle in the market, we are confident that he would take the American arm every time.

THE general orders of the 4th of June, published in this issue, show the losses to exactly equal the gains, there being sixteen of each, while there are fifteen promotions gazetted. Of the new appointments four hold qualifying certificates, two are non-combatants not requiring certificates, and the other ten have yet to qualify. The most noteworthy changes are that Lieut.-Col. T. T. Coleman assumes command of the 33rd Huron Batt. in the stead of Lieut.-Col. A. M. Ross, who retires after twenty years' command, while Major Murray of the same corps also retires. In the Royal Grenadiers Dr. Ryerson succeeds Dr. McCollum as surgeon, Dr. Hurdman is promoted to the rank of surgeon of the 55th Megantic light infantry, and Captain Arnold is made paymaster of the 74th with the honorary rank of major.