

THE RIFLEMEN.

Rifle Shooting at Banff.

On Friday the 16th March, a friendly rifle match took place between the North West Mounted Police under Inspector Hooper's command and the Civilians of this place, which resulted in a victory for the former, by 13 points. The range was 200 yards, any military rifle. The following is the score:

POLICE.		CIVILIANS.	
Inspector Harper	22	N. B. Sanson	23
Sergt. Brookes	23	W. Jack	22
Corp. Aston	22	F. E. Young	21
Const. Noice	21	Dr. H. Simpson	18
Const. McKellar	22	Sam Harrison	16
Const. Peckett	18	I. Jangea	15
	128		115

On St. Patrick's Day the return match between Banff and Canmore was shot off at Banff, the latter winning this time by 5 points. The shooting of some of the Banffites not being as good as heretofore. Mr. Jack unfortunately breaking his eye-glasses, was unable to bring his score up to his average. This match like the former was at 200 yards with any military rifle and for a sweepstake.

The weather was delightful, and a number of the fair sex from both Banff and Canmore were on the ground, much interested in their respective champions. A comfortable tent with a stove in it was pitched on the ground in which hot coffee, &c., was dispensed by the home riflemen to the ladies and guests.

The result of the match having made things equal between the rival marksmen, Banff having won previously, a deciding contest will take place at Canmore on the 28th inst., the result of which is looked forward to with much interest. The following is the score:

BANFF.		CANMORE.	
Inspector Harper	21	J. Stocks	23
N. B. Sanson	22	J. Brown	23
Const. Noice	22	Corp. Aston N.W.M.P.	20
Sergt. Brookes	21	W. Brown	20
W. Jack	16	W. C. Stewart	17
F. E. Young	12	H. Baker	16
	114		119

The prizes which were 5 in number together with a box of cigars given by manager Scarth of the Sanitarium to the victorious team were won as follows: 1st J. Brown, Canmore; 2nd J. Stock, Canmore; 3rd N. B. Sanson, Banff; 4th Const. Noice, Banff; 5th Sergt. Brookes, Banff.

After the match the Banff riflemen entertained their guests at a most *recherche* dinner at the Sanitarium, and after the good things had been disposed of followed by the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, the whole party adjourned to the sitting room, where, with Insep. Harper in the chair a most enthusiastic meeting was held for the purpose of forming a rifle association.

An association has consequently been formed called "The Rocky Mts. Rifle Ass'n." to be under the patronage of the Lieut. Governor of the N.W.T., and the following officers have been elected: President, Capt. Stewart, superintendent of the R.M. Parks; vice-president, Insep. Harper, N.W.M.P.; 1st vice-pres., Mr. John Cardell, Canmore; 2nd vice-pres., Dr. Simpson; treas. Mr. John Stocks, Canmore; Sec., Mr. N. B. Sanson, Banff. A large number of residents of the Parks and Bow River Valley, have already signified their intention of becoming members of the association, and Supt Stewart of the R. Mts. Parks has promised in the near future to lay out a first class range, which from the nature of the ground here several choice selections can be made. We hope therefore ere long, to see our riflemen returning from the east laden with trophies of victory won on the ranges of the Dominion association.

N. W. M. P. vs. Civilians.

A friendly rifle match between Capt. Harper's command N.W.M.P. and the Civilians was held at Banff, Friday 16th March, resulting in a victory for the Police. Range 200 yards, 5 shots. The following are the scores:

N. W. M. P.		CIVILIANS.	
Capt. Harper	22	N. B. Sanson	23
Sergt. Brookes	23	W. Jack	22
Corp. Aston	22	F. Young	21
Const. McKellar	22	Dr. H. Simpson	18
Const. F. Noice	21	S. Harrison	16
Const. Peckett	18	J. Jansen	15
Total	125		115

40th Batt Rifle Association.

The first annual meeting of the 40th Batt. Rifle Association was held in the council chamber, Ferris block, Campbellford, on Thursday evening, March 22. A constitution and set of by-laws was thoroughly discussed and upon motion, adopted. The association was then informed that the ranges would be at its disposal for the current year, upon the same very favorable terms as for 1893. The following was the result of the election of officers: Patron, Warden C. L. Owen; Hon. Pres., Lt.-Col. R. Z. Rogers; Pres., C. S. Gillespie; Vice-Pres., Capt. Bonnycastle; Sec.-Treas., Capt. Hamilton. Committee, J. L. Richmond, Sergt. Blue, M. Scott, T. G. Gillespie, John Johnson; Range Officer, E. A. Bog. This youngest of Rifle Association begins its career with every prospect of continued success.

Dominion Riflemen Meet.

Lord Aberdeen Speaks—He Wishes the Association All Possible Success. Minister of Militia on the New Rifle.

OTTAWA, April 4.—The annual meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association was held in the Railway committee room of the House of Commons, this morning, the president of the association, Lieut.-Col. Gibson, in the chair. The attendance was rather larger than usual, which was probably due to some extent to the fact that this was the first meeting since the appointment of Lord Aberdeen as Governor-General, and the members of the association appeared anxious to do honor to their new patron. His Excellency arrived promptly on time, and Col. Gibson at once proceeded to business by calling the meeting to order and calling for motions.

The annual report was received as read and adopted.

Col. Denison, in moving the adoption, called attention, as commander of the Bisley team last year, to the disadvantages the team labored under, and suggested that, if possible, it be so arranged in future that the twenty men should not all start at the same time.

Major Hughes moved, seconded by Mr. J. B. Mills, M.P., a vote of thanks to His Excellency for his presence, and expressing satisfaction at his accepting the position of patron and for the interest he had already shown in rifle shooting.

Lord Aberdeen said that he was both gratified and surprised at the heartiness with which the vote was carried; but his surprise was somewhat lessened when he considered that perhaps the association would like to know what was to be ex-

pected from him. Well, he could only say that he would take his share in promoting what he regarded as a great national patriotic work. (Applause.) Anyone reviewing the work of the association cannot fail to be struck by the manner in which the association carried on its work. He referred to the Bisley team, which he described as "an embassy of honor," and expressed pleasure at the manner in which the team had acquitted itself. Although they had not carried off the great prize they had done exceedingly well, and taken some £80 in prizes. He thought the team should, if possible, be in England a few days before the matches commenced at Bisley, so as to get their land legs after the voyage. He hoped that next year the team would gain even greater distinction than last year, and do honor not only to themselves, but to the association and to Canada. (Applause.) It would be strange if anyone holding the high position he did should not feel an interest in rifle shooting, and he begged to assure the association that he heartily sympathized with its aims and objects, and would do all in his power to promote them. (Cheers.)

In putting the vote of thanks to the Hon. J. C. Patterson, Minister of Militia, moved by Lieut.-Col. Starke, the chairman said that in the Minister of Militia the D.R.A. had a true friend. The chairman also took occasion to express approval of the grants made by the Dominion Government, and suggested that a little further liberality would not be displeasing to either side of the House.

Hon. Mr. Patterson in reply acknowledged the cordial support given to him by members of the House, irrespective of politics.

General Herbert expressed his disappointment at not being able to lay on the table one of the new rifles, which were now on the way from the old country. He was certain that when the rifles arrived they would give satisfaction. Nine thousand of them would be available in the course of a few months. He hoped to make arrangements for conversion of Martini-Henris, which were the private property of individual riflemen, as well as those belonging to the force. From the experiments he had seen at Enfield, he formed a high opinion of the Martini-Metford rifle, and for the purposes of the Canadian militia he believed it was a superior weapon to the Lee-Metford, with which the forces were armed in the old country. General Herbert pointed out that the simple possession of rifles was no good unless the weapon was well looked after and ranges were provided for practice. Double the old training was required for a recruit in the British army nowadays, 200 rounds being required instead of 60. From a citizen force they could not expect so much, but he thought rifles, ranges and ammunition should be provided for practice. (Applause.)

Several votes of thanks were passed, including one to Messrs. S. Davis & Sons, of Montreal, for the gift of a challenge