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Successor to the Canadian Militia Gazette.

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MONTREAL, AUGUST 1, 1895.

MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

1895.

HEADQUARTERS,

Ottawa, 26th July, 1895.

G. O. 41.

Private T. H. Hayhurst, 13th Battalion, Active Militia of Canada, a member of the Canadian Rifle Team to compete at the Annual Matches of the National Rifle Association of England, 1895, had the honour to win at Bisley, on the 20th instant, Her Majesty The Queen's Prize, being the highest competed for at those Matches. This prize carries with it the Gold Medal and Gold Badge added by the National Rifle Association of England.

By command,

WALKER POWELL, Colonel,

Adjutant General of Militia,
Canada.

Notes and Comments

'Twas a famous victory! The winning of the Queen's Prize at Bisley by private Hayhurst is quite an event in Canadian history, a glorious occasion for the army, for his battalion, for the Canadian Militia and for the Dominion. It is gratifying, too, to hear of the popularity of the Canadian victors, not only on Bisley Common, but throughout the length and breadth of England. But after all, it is only what we might have expected of our wholesouled fellow-subjects in the dear old island, which is the shrine of manly sport and fair play, as well as the mother of nations. It is one of the remarkable and satisfactory characteristics of the good fellowship and affection existing between the different branches of the British nation that they reach undiminished in strength across oceans. In fact distance appears to lend enchantment to the view. Private Hayhurst's splendid victory has been a good thing for Canada practically, and Canadians can hardly overdo it in giving him an enthusiastic welcome home. Lieut.-Col. Prior, M. P., did the proper thing in bringing the victory to the attention of Parliament and it is to be regretted that the government did not see its way clear to open a national subscription, instead of considering its duty done when it started the "hat" off on its peripatinations through the force. The government apparently knows where to look for that species of loyalty and national spirit that reaches the pocketbook.

When the news of Hayhurst's

victory reached Canada the men who have so long toiled and striven to keep up the enthusiasm in rifle shooting in Canada must have felt amply repaid for all their time, trouble and expense. Political cheese-parers may be expected to be silent about the expense of the Bisley team for a few years now.

The brigade camps are once more over, the stained uniforms have been consigned to the odorous seclusion of the captains' camphor boxes, and the arms, in districts where inspecting officers are wide-awake, that is, have been put down in oil for another two years at last. Visitors at each and every one of the camps agree that the progress made in drill, discipline and marksmanship during the nine drill days under canvass was very marked, but even making every allowance for the natural intelligence of the Canadian militiaman and for the good work done by the instructors in camp, the knowledge acquired must have been of such a superficial character that it will be forgotten long before the corps that were out this season go to camp again.

Even a civilian with half an eye in his head can see that this present system of short and infrequent camps is a useless waste of money. True the gallant corps that straggled into camp looking more like droves of sheep than military bodies marched out in pretty respectable military order, but the last time they broke camp they looked just as well. No progress is made in building up an effective defensive force in this way.