

The great object attained was the preparation of the road and transport arrangements which enabled the force to march from the Coast to Kumassi without a check, and with as little time as possible for fever to work havoc among the troops. The troops were not landed until everything was ready for an advance, and the disembarkation and the beginning of the march were simultaneous. The campaign practically lasted three weeks, and without a hitch Kumassi was entered on the 17th of January, just 24 hours earlier than the anticipated date.

Two graduates of the Royal Military College of Canada were employed in this expedition. Lieut. C. C. VanStraubenzee, of the Royal Artillery, who was the only subaltern of that corps sent out, and Lieut. D. S. MacInnes, of the Royal Engineers, the latter with a detachment of the Telegraph Battalion. There were but two officers connected with this work, and as his superior officer was laid up with the fever shortly after passing Prahsu, he came in for pretty hard work. The Canadian officer got into Kumassi with the telegraph line a few hours after the troops did. He was caught with the fever just as he had practically finished his work. On the way to Gibraltar he had three attacks of fever, from which he recovered in the hospital at the place mentioned.

There appeared in *The Maple Leaf* (a monthly paper issued by the 1st Battalion, Leinster Regiment, Royal Canadians) of the 1st of April, an article entitled "From Tipperary to Kumassi," written by one of the detachment who accompanied the Special Service Corps to Ashanti. Among other things mentioned therein the following is taken as being appropriate to the subject in hand. "The detachment proceeded to Aldershot, and each man drew from the ordnance store a Martini-Henry carbine, Elcho sword bayonet, two pouches, a pocket filter, a water bottle and a tin pannikin. Before taking their departure they were given musketry practice, consisting of 15 rounds, of which 5 were standing at 100 yards with fixed swords, 5 at the same distance without swords, and 5 at 200 yards standing with fixed swords. When the detachment were anchored off Freetown volley firing was practised at some casks which were thrown out from the ship, which formed excellent 'running men.' They reached Cape Coast Castle on Christmas day." Speaking of the natives, the writer stated that their tailor's bill must be an exceedingly small one indeed, as the only clothing seen amongst two hundred of them was a few pieces of string, three old straw hats, a lady's bonnet, and a broken pair of spectacles. Upon being landed each man was provided with 70 rounds of ammunition and an

"emergency ration." The latter, as its name implies, is only to be used in case of emergency, and consists of a hermetically sealed tin containing essence of beef in one compartment and chocolate in the other, and is capable of sustaining a man's strength for 36 hours. The ration is only to be opened by order of an officer.

Upon the march the scenery in parts was very fine, splendid trees covered over with creepers in full bloom, beautiful flowers and enormous tropical plants on all sides. All kinds of fruit in abundance and very cheap. In places the road lay through dense bamboo forest, interspersed with coconut palms.

#### GOOD REVOLVER SHOOTING.

AT the prize meeting of the Irish Rifle Association at Dublin in June last, the revolver championship of Ireland was keenly contested. Here is an extract from *The Irish Times* of June 22nd: "The revolver shooting, which included four series, was also open to every expert. Some few new competitors put in an appearance and were successful in getting into the prize list. Mr. Joynt won the championship of Ireland again for the best aggregate score in the several revolver series, while Mr. Anderson was a close second." Mr. Joynt's scores were as follows:

First series, 6 shots at 20 yds., 42—a possible; 2nd series, 6 shots at 30 yds., 39 out of 42; 3rd series, 12 shots at 20 yards., 81 out of 84; 4th series, 12 shots at 30 yds., 76 out of 84. The first and third series were for prizes presented by the Smokeless Powder Co. In these series Mr. Joynt made especially high scores. In all cases he used Revolver Rifleite, and found it entirely satisfactory. He used it at the Bisley meet also.

About two weeks previous to this Lieut. Clemence, St. George's Rifles, carried off the Tomkins Challenge Plate at Bisley, using the Revolver Rifleite manufactured by the Smokeless Powder Co. He made 41 out of a possible 42.

#### WILL THE MONTREAL TROOP BE A CITY CORPS?

There is a movement to make the Montreal troop of the 6th Hussars a city corps. It would then be able to perform the annual drill at local headquarters. All the foot and arm drill can be learned in the early part of the season, while the mounted work could be done in the morning and evening, as the field battery now do. This will enable them to get many men whose business engagements would not permit them to spend a couple of weeks in brigade camp. Capt. Fred. Whitley says he does not wish it to become an independent troop, except for training only. He wishes them to continue part of the regiment.

#### LORD WOLSELEY ON ARMY TRAINING.

Lord Wolseley attended the Speech Day at Wellington College on Thursday (the anniversary of the battle of Waterloo), and, in addressing a large gathering, said: "There was now a very large number of young men annually coming forward most desirous of entering the army. It was not as it was when he entered the service years ago, when the son of any English gentleman or officer could, by the payment of a few hundred pounds, obtain a commission. Now they were face to face with the system of competitive examination, and whether it were good or bad—perhaps there was a little of each in it—at any rate for his own part he could say that the young men who joined the army under that system certainly had nothing to be ashamed of, and were worthy to stand shoulder to shoulder with those who entered the army under the old conditions. All our recent little wars proved that they were not deficient in that courage and endurance which characterized their fathers before them. Now, owing to the large number of young men who presented themselves at examinations, the authorities were enabled to make good selections, and it was their endeavor to select from the very large number of competitors those whom they thought would make the best soldiers. Therefore let him remind them and the schoolboys of England generally of the fact that the authorities not only insisted upon having certain qualifications as regards physical and mental attainments, but that they took the greatest possible trouble to find out the character borne by the young men in the schools at which they were educated."

#### BAND INSTRUMENT AWARDS.

Messrs. Besson & Co., Ltd., London, have been winning many awards for their instruments, that is to say, that bands equipped with their instruments have been taking premier positions at the band contests at the Music Trades Exhibition at the Agricultural Hall, London, Eng. The three first bands had a complete set of their "Prototype" instruments. On the 11th July at a band contest held at Bellevue Gardens, Manchester, the winners of the first, second, third and fourth prizes used complete sets of Besson's instruments.

The extra cost of sending Indian troops to the Soudan is, it is believed, estimated by the Indian Government at twenty-four lacs of rupees, or about £140,000. In all 3,723 Indian troops have arrived at Suakin, with 821 horses, 168 mules, and provisions for three months. Col. L. Denig, D.S.O., Commandant 25th Bengal Infantry, has taken over the civil government of Tokar. Only one Egyptian battalion now remains at Suakin.