

ison, 3 sergeants and 32 men; No. 4, Lieut. Howard Smith, 4 sergeants and 30 men; No. 5, Capt. Mitchell, Lieut. Converse, 3 sergeants and 28 men; No. 6, Capt. Chambers, Lieut. Tatley, 4 sergeants and 34 men.

• • • • •

An English-speaking Canadian with any idea of the difficulties under which French Canadian necessarily do their duty in the militia, does not like to write harsh things about the 65th Mount Royal Rifles, undoubtedly the best French Canadian regiment there is. Still it must be said that the annual inspection of the corps held at Laprairie on Saturday July 1st was very disappointing indeed. The battalion turned out fully a hundred men below strength, and such men as some of those in the ranks were to be sure! They were a very weedy lot. Not only did the battalion turn out badly, but its drill was very far indeed from the standard of a city battalion.

• • • • •

It is really not hard to understand why the 65th is not better supported by our French Canadian citizens. It is and has been for years very well officered. The officers belong to families holding the very best positions in east end society, and they have all taken courses at the St. Johns school and are well up in their military work. The trouble really appears to be with the uniform. It is a mistake to clothe men of French blood and instincts in the sombre rifle uniform. Frenchmen delight in display and color and soldiery has not much glory for them when it has to be done in a dingy suit of faded green or black. What man of French blood would care for soldiering if there was no glory attached to it. By all means give the 65th a uniform somewhat in accord with the national instincts of the French Canadians.

• • • • •

An event of importance on Dominion Day was of course the visit to the city of the Fourteenth Princess of Wales Own Rifles of Kingston. Only a very half hearted reception was tendered to the visitors and it would be interesting to know just who is to blame for the inefficiency displayed in this particular. The Fourteenth probably did not want any fuss and feathers, and meaningless orations, but nevertheless there is much regret among military men that more was not done in the way of official hospitality. The visit was generally unexpected by military men, and this is some palliation for the shortcoming. There had been reports about that the regiment intended coming hither, but for some weeks nothing was heard of the project and it was with surprise that officers of the local corps summering in the country learned on reaching the city Monday morning that the Kingston volunteers had arrived and were quartered in the Victoria Rifles Armory.

• • • • •

The opinion of the military men who ran up against the members of the Fourteenth while here is, as it was on the occasion of the regiment's visit to Montreal

some years ago, that the men are a sturdy, well disposed set and are exceptionally well officered. The material is excellent, but it is not quite as well worked up as it is in our best Montreal regiments.

• • • • •

The Metropolitan says: The spark of hope in the militiamen's breasts has again been kindled into a bright flame by some remarks made by the Hon. J. C. Patterson, Minister of Militia, at the Laprairie camp. Strange to say, not a word of these very important remarks found its way into any of the daily papers, which is not to be wondered at, considering that the more important matters affecting the militia are studiously ignored by the Canadian press. The minister had inspected the various camps on their own parade grounds and had gone about among the tents and through the ranks, speaking not only to the officers but to the men as well. Before he left, the brigade was formed up in a hollow square and he addressed them. He had come, he said, not as an inspecting officer, nor even in his official capacity as Minister of Militia, but as a private individual intensely interested in the welfare of the force. He had been advised by his old friend and colleague, an old colonel of militia himself, Hon. Mackenzie Bowell, to visit the camps and make himself acquainted with those composing the force. He had tried to meet as many as possible of those in camp and to exchange views with them, but he had not been able to meet them all. He wanted, at this critical time, the advice and assistance of all ranks and he would be pleased to receive at all times suggestions and letters bearing upon the service not only from officers but from the men in the ranks as well. He recognized the fact that the members of the militia did not join the force for any monetary advantage, for there was nothing of that sort in it. They joined from purely patriotic motives and their opinions were worthy of every consideration.

How is that for hope kindling talk by the minister? He realized that the Government would have to do something more for the militia than it is doing and do it soon. He was anxious and determined to do something to place the force in a satisfactory state of efficiency and so was the Government, only they wanted to feel sure that they knew just exactly what the force required before committing themselves to any policy of reform. He thought that he might also assure the force that the Parliament was well disposed towards them.

OTTAWA.

With a capital muster, 39 strong, the Princess Louise Dragoon Guards started out on their trip to Carleton Place on the afternoon of the 30th ult. They left the city, mounted, about five o'clock and reached their destination about midnight. It was threatening rain in the east as they rode from Cartier Square, but fortunately the weather grew fine as the evening progressed. The troop was headed by Capt. Gourdeau and Lt. Browne, and brought up in the rear by Staff Ser-

geant McGovern, who sat in gallant state upon the Commissary wagon. For the troop, it must be said, that they appeared in splendid form. Their uniforms and accoutrements were neat and clean, and the turnout generally was in first class order. The drill and manoeuvres of the troop on Dominion Day were witnessed by over two thousand spectators at the Lake Shore Park. The troopers were enthusiastically cheered when they left the grounds. The cavalry fever runs high in Carleton Place. The officers and men are very much delighted with the trip, and especially the hospitality and attention given them by the residents. Mr. Salter, the proprietor of the Queen's Hotel, the troop's headquarters, was highly complimented by Captain Gourdeau before the troop marched out on Sunday evening for the perfect commissariat arrangements made for men and horses.

• • • • •

Sergt. Inst. Lee, No. 1 Co. R. C. R. I., was presented in the sergeants' mess, G. G. F. G., on the 5th inst., with a handsome address and a silver watch, by the members of the recent non-commissioned officers' class, as a mark of their appreciation of his services during the winter. Sergt. Lee has purchased his discharge and is going to join the Northwest Mounted Police.

• • • • •

On Saturday the 8th inst., the Mayor of Ottawa requested that a guard of honor of 50 men be present at the civic ceremonies, caused by the Governor General's approaching departure for England. Owing, however, to the request having been received very late in the morning, it was impossible to warn the full complement of men, so that when the detail marched out, in a shower of rain, under Capt. Roper and Lieuts. Watters and Street, there was only the band, 22 strong, and 40 N. C. O. and men. Having received His Excellency with the customary salute the men at his request piled arms and broke off. After receiving an address from the corporation and bidding good-bye to the citizens Lord Derby inspected the guard and requested the officer in command to announce to the men that he quite understood the reason for the small muster, and that he also wished them to know that the Guards turned out by the regiment during his term of office had always both numerically and otherwise been entirely to his satisfaction.

• • • • •

Notwithstanding the threatening weather, which resulted in a very heavy shower, there was a good turnout of No. 1 company 43rd Batt., at the rifle range on the same afternoon. The spoon competitions were well contested, but the chief object of interest was the match with No. 6 company of the same battalion, which resulted in a victory for No. 1. Although several of their best men were absent they managed to beat the boys from New Edinburgh by 36 points, the total for the 25 men of No. 1 company being 1,787, and for the men of No. 6 1,751. No. 1 Co. and No. 6 are both ready for a return match.

The leading scores in the spoon com-