

### Ontario Artillery Association Prize List for 1888.

Royal Military College Firing Competition—Cup for best shot, value \$50. Will fire during the spring of 1889.

Royal School of Gunnery firing competition, 9 pr. M. L. R.—1st prize, Br. Beal, 29 pts., \$5; 2nd, S.-Sgt. Ducharme, 23 pts., \$4; 3rd, S.-Sgt. Newnham, 20 pts., \$3.

Cobourg Garrison Battery firing competition, 40 pr. B. S. R. and 64 pr. M. L. R.—1st prize, Gr. Macnachten, 43 pts., \$5; 5nd, Br. Campbell, 41 pts., \$4; 3rd, Sgt. Mulvenin, 35 pts., \$3.

#### BATTERY INDIVIDUAL SCORES.

Ottawa F. B.—1st, Gr. Bonnell, 27 pts., \$5; 2nd, Gr. Gray, 22 pts., \$4; 3rd, Corpl. Harvey, 19 pts., \$3.

Hamilton F. B.—1st, Sgt. Fernside, 23 pts., \$5; 2nd, Gr. McMullan, 21 pts., \$4; 3rd, Sgt.-Inst. Kerley, 19 pts., \$3.

Kingston F. B.—1st, Gr. McAdoo, 21 pts., \$5.

London F. B.—1st, Corpl. Barrett, 18 pts., \$5.

Welland F. B.—1st, Sgt. Richardson, 27 pts., \$5; 2nd, Bomb. Ness, 27 pts., \$4; 3rd, Corpl. Halliday, 22 pts., \$3.

Durham F. B.—1st, Sgt. Henderson, 21 pts., \$5.

Toronto F. B.—1st, Gr. Watson, 25 pts., \$5; 2nd, Gr. Benson, 18 pts., \$4; 3rd, Gr. Ryan, 18 pts., \$3.

Gananoque F. B.—1st, Gr. Johnson, 24 pts., \$5; 2nd, Sgt. Trickey, 23 pts., \$4; 3rd, Gr. Wood, 22 pts., \$3.

"B" Battery 1st Brigade Field Artillery, Guelph.—1st, Q. M.-Sgt. Thatcher, 32 pts., \$5; 2nd, Gr. Kennedy, 31 pts., \$4; 3rd, Br. Marsack, 21 pts., \$3.

"A" Battery 1st Brigade Field Artillery.—1st, Sgt. Armstrong, 28 pts., \$5; 2nd, Corpl. Sallows, 25 pts., \$4; 3rd, Gr. Lawrence, 20 pts., \$3.

#### "SHORT COURSE" EFFICIENCY PRIZE.

To N. C. O. and Gunners of Field Batteries obtaining highest decimals at Royal School of Gunnery, Kingston, during 1888.—N.C.O.'s prize, Q. M.-Sgt. Coombes, Hamilton F. B., .88, \$7; Gunner's prize, Gunner H. H. Cleugh, 1st B. F. A., .68, \$5.

#### DRIVING COMPETITIONS.

Ottawa F. B.—Driver D. Johnson, \$6; Driver R. Martin, \$6.

Hamilton F. B.—Driver Campbell, \$6; Driver Atkinson, \$6.

Kingston F. B.—Driver C. Hyslop, \$6; Driver J. Ferguson, \$6.

London F. B.—Driver Corpl. Webb, \$6; Driver Hull, \$6.

Welland F. B.—Driver Biggs, \$6; Driver Hammond, \$6.

Toronto F. B.—Driver S. Ritchie, \$6; Driver Page, \$6.

Durham F. B.—Driver Moffatt, \$6; Driver Johnston, \$6.

Gananoque F. B.—Driver A. Mack, \$6; Driver A. Tennant, \$6.

"B" Battery 1st B. F. A.—Driver J. Anderson, \$6; Driver A. Newstead, \$6.

"A" Battery 1st B. F. A.—Driver W. Winer, \$6; Driver D. Black, \$6.

### The British Army.

On Christmas day the London *Times* published a statement of the strength and distribution of the British regular army, which is especially interesting at a time when the attention of the world is constantly being called to the enormous military strength of France, Germany, and other great European powers. The peace strength of the French army is 525,000 officers and men, while that of the German army is 492,000. The most recent calculation shows that the British army numbers 221,000 officers and men, or about the same as at the close of last year, when an increase of 10,000 had just been completed. The foot guards and infantry number 141,200, the cavalry 19,000, the artillery 35,500, the engineers 6,700, and other branches of the service make up the remaining 8,600. Of the whole number nearly 104,000 are quartered in the British Isles, and 74,500 in India under General Sir Frederick Roberts. Of the latter the Bengal command contains the larger portion of the home military forces, the number of men stationed there being 28,000, while Scotland has only 3,700. The distribution of the remainder of the army is as follows: Egypt 4,000 men, Gibraltar 5,000, Malta nearly 7,000, Cyprus 1,000, South Africa 4,200, Hong Kong and the Straits settlement 2,700, Ceylon 1,300, Nova Scotia 1,500, the West Indies 2,400, and St. Helena and Mauritius a few hundred each. To these must be added also about 2,000 men who are on their way either to or from home. Leaving out Australasia, in which no troops are stationed, and British North America, which has only 1,500, it is calculated that there still remain more than two million square miles of territory to be guarded by the ordinary land forces, which allows a proportion of about one regular soldier to every ten square miles of home, colonial, and Indian possessions. This appears to be a poor showing as compared with that made by either France or Germany, but it must be remembered that, leaving aside India and Canada, a very large portion of British territory the world over can be attached only by a naval force, and that Great Britain's navy is as important a bulwark of defence as her army.

### Regimental Notes.

#### Montreal.

The following letter appears in the *Star*, signed by Capt. Fred Lydon the adjutant of the Fifth Royal Scots:

*Editor Star*,—In advancing my opinion I hope it will be understood that I have no other interest to serve but that of the force generally and the Montreal Garrison in particular. I wish to point out what I think would be a popular move and one I am sure would have a lasting effect for good on the rank and file. In building our really fine drill hall the authorities neglected two or three matters which are of the utmost importance. First, the mistake made in not connecting the lower armories with the rooms above by a spiral staircase inside of each regimental quarters; second, not providing a brigade band practice room where each of the regimental bands could practice not only singly, but, as a brigade band, altogether; third, a shooting gallery, where young shots could learn the art of aiming during the winter months, and, lastly, a gymnasium, where our young men could, under proper instruction learn the art of developing the muscles, and so make them not only smarter and more efficient soldiers, but healthier citizens. All the foregoing mistakes could be very easily rectified, and at no serious expense, I think. The spiral staircases being put in each armoury would obviate the necessity of the gallery as a means of entering the upper rooms, thus leaving them to be converted into two nice long shooting galleries. The brigade practice rooms might be provided for by utilizing the Victoria Rifles' portion, it being only used as a workshop by the contractor. And now about the last and most important omission—that of a gymnasium—I would suggest that the gallery across the end be partitioned to the roof, the present raised steps taken out and a floor laid and fitted with the appliances for a first class school or gymnasium and recreation room, which should be open every evening for the use of all members of the active militia. I am sure that with such a place fitted up by the authorities the several corps would unite in procuring the services of a first class teacher of military gymnastics.

"An argument in favour of a garrison recreation room, and one that all lovers of the force will admit, is that by providing a place of amusement for our young men we are removing them from many temptations which beset them on all hands when strolling about the streets. I would like the opinion of members of the force, as I think the matter of vital importance, which should command the attention of all ranks. In considering this matter it should be borne in mind that Montreal can boast of the largest, and I believe the best brigade of active militia in the Dominion. The opinion of one whose experience entitles him to claim to be a judge, as expressed in your paper a few evenings ago as to the efficiency of our field battery is no more than the truth. We are all proud of our battery, and what has been said of the M. F. B. might be said with almost equal truth to the other branches of the force. We can boast of a complete brigade of garrison artillery, complete in the full sense of the word. We have, counting in the 6th brigade, three rifle regiments, a first rate troop of cavalry, a good engineer corps, and last but not least, a Fusilier and a Highland regiment (scarlet), who are able and will always be willing to hold up their end against all comers. What we want to make this splendid force perfect is a first class recreation room with the best instruction in military gymnastics. Who will help us to do this?"

#### WHAT THE "STAR" SAYS.

"The letter in Saturday's paper advocating a garrison recreation room merits consideration from all who take an interest in the volunteer service. The drill hall answers some of the purposes for which such a building is designed, but there are several respects in which it is behind the age. Among the needs which show themselves most plainly are a recreation room, a band practice room, a shooting gallery and a gymnasium. All these can be secured without subjecting the Montreal Garrison to much expense, and, no doubt, if the Government were solicited it would lend a hand, and thus make the drill hall more attractive than is now the case. There are many respects in which the proposed improvements would be of value. They would throw the members of the regiments into closer association with each other, and thus encourage an *esprit de corps*, it being the case that young men in the same battalion often remain strangers to each other all the time they are connected with it, through no opportunity being offered them of coming together excepting when they assemble for drill or other regimental purposes. The shooting gallery would help to make them better shots, and the gymnasium would strengthen their muscles and serve to make them more efficient volunteers, instruction in military gymnastics now being considered a point of importance. The community owes much to its volunteers, who receive but scant thanks and scantier remuneration for the time they expend and the trouble they take in discharging with their regimental duties. Montreal can boast of the