

Martini Series C—Con.

Sergt. Elliott, 63rd	28
Staff-sergt. Rolston, 20th	28
Pte. McVittie, R.G.	28
Lieut. Gray, Guards	28
Sergt. Goudie, 8th	28
Capt. Dow, 91st	28
Pte. Curtis, 45th	28
Pte. Taylor, 43rd	28
Capt. Adams, H.G.A.	28
Bandsman Young, 45th	28

Martini Series D—Con.

Staff-sergt. Wilson, 33rd	26
Sergt. Newbury, B.C. G.A.	26
Pte. Sharpe, N. W. Rifles	26
Pte. Burns, 62nd	26
Sergt. Kennedy, Q.O.R.	25
Capt. Russell, 45th	25
Lieut. Lordly, 62nd	25
Bandsman Young, 45th	25
Corpl. Crowe, 1st B. F. A.	25
Pte. Curtis, 45th	25

REVOLVER MATCH.

Seven shots, off hand, at 25 yards.

\$10 Sergt. Hall, 79th	33	\$3 Staff-sergt. Wilson, 33rd	33
8 Pte. Sando, 45th	33	3 Pte. Murdoch, 13th	32
5 Sergt. Robertson, 20th	33	3 Staff-sergt. Chamberlin, 95th	32
4 Pte. Cuckow, 77th	33	3 Pte. C. Routh, 43rd	32
4 Staff-sergt. Margetts, 13th	33	3 Col.-Sergt. Fairbairn, 43rd	32
4 " J. B. Mitchel, 45th	33	Three 32's were counted out.	

The prizes of \$10 and upwards were formally distributed to such few of the winners as fyled appearance at a public presentation which took place upon the range in the afternoon. At this the master of ceremonies was Lt.-Col. Kirkpatrick, M.P., the president of the association, and amongst those present and taking part in the distribution were Sir John Macdonald, Sir John Thompson, Hon. C. H. Tupper, Sir Fred. Middleton and Col. Powell, Adjutant-General. The winners appeared in full dress uniform, and were liberally applauded as they came forward to receive their well earned prizes.

The president held an "at home" in the council marquee immediately after the presentation, and here he had the pleasure of receiving a large and distinguished company.

Col. Macpherson, the treasurer, was kept busy until late in the afternoon paying the minor prizes to the winners, but satisfied them all in time to enable those desiring to do so to take the early trains for home. The great bulk left the city that evening, thoroughly well satisfied with the meeting, as indeed they had cause to be, for the management all through was as good as could desired.

The Military Matches.

The afternoon of the second day of the meeting was given up to team skirmishing and volley firing in the Gzowski and Challenge shield competitions. No other matches were in progress except the 800 and 900 yards Martini. The Gzowski challenge cup match included an elaborate test, consisting of 20 shots each man, skirmishing from 450 yards to 150 yards, five rounds volley firing at 300 yards, and five rounds independent firing at 150 yards. The result was as follows:

The Cup and \$50—5th Royal Scots	338
\$40 Governor-General's Foot Guards	315
35 8th Royal Rifles	312
30 Victoria Rifles	309
25 43rd Battalion	306
20 Queen's Own Rifles	303

Next in order:

6th Fusiliers	302
63rd Battalion	290
P. E. I. Team	280
10th Royal Grenadiers	266
13th Battalion	265
British Columbia Team	245

The British Challenge Shield match was fired next, this being for teams of four men, and any corps so desiring being allowed to enter two teams. There were in consequence eighteen teams to compete, and they stood as follows, the competition including only 20 shots skirmishing from 450 to 150 yards:

	Hits.	Pts.
The Shield and \$40—Governor-General's Foot Guards, first team	58	240
\$30 Fifth Royal Scots	53	231
20 Queen's Own Rifles	51	224
10 43rd Battalion, first team	48	213

The other scores in their order were:

12th Battalion	52	208
6th Fusiliers, first team	54	196
8th Royals, first team	46	195
65th Battalion	47	188
10th Royal Grenadiers	45	185
8th Royal Rifles, second team	43	180
13th Battalion	44	174
43rd Battalion, second team	43	174
British Columbia	40	168
53rd Battalion	42	159
P. E. I. team	32	155
3rd Victoria Rifles	40	154
G. G. F. G., second team	37	151
6th Fusiliers, second team	29	107

This is the third occasion upon which the Guards have won the Challenge Shield, the others being in 1884 and in 1887. There have

only been six competitions in all, the first being in 1883.

The military matches were on this occasion carried out without any of the dissatisfaction usually characteristic of them.

54th Battalion Rifle Matches.

From the *Richmond Times* of the 31st August, a marked copy of which came to hand this week, we republish the prize scores of the 54th battalion annual matches as follows:

1. Nursery—200 yards, 7 shots.

Mr. J. T. Thomas	29	Pte. Jas. Jalous	27
Mr. Jos. A. Gibson	28	Pte. Geo. Wilson	27
Corpl. W. Bradley	28	Sergt. E. Barlow	27

2.—500 and 600 yards, 7 shots.

Staff-sergt. E. A. Cleveland, 54th	52	Pte. C. Griffith, 54th	36
Pte. M. A. Harvey, 54th	51	Sergt. E. Barlow, 54th	36
Sergt. J. A. Bothwell, 54th	41	Capt. J. W. Harkom, 54th	36
Mr. John White, M.R.A.	39	Mr. Jos. McKeage, M.R.A.	36
Major L. Thomas, 54th	39	Mr. H. N. Vicat, M.R.A.	35
Mr. J. T. Thomas, M.R.A.	39	Pte. Jas. Jalous, 54th	35
Major T. P. Cleveland, 54th	39	Sergt. M. H. Healy, 54th	33

2.—200 and 500 yards, 7 shots.

Mr. H. A. Bothwell, M.R.A.	53	Mr. John White, M.R.A.	47
Capt. J. W. Harkom, 54th	53	Sergt. W. Wentworth, 54th	47
Major L. Thomas, 54th	52	Sergt. J. A. Bothwell, 54th	47
Sergt. M. H. Healy, 54th	52	Sergt. E. Barlow, 54th	46
Mr. J. T. Thomas, M.R.A.	52	Mr. E. Leet, M.R.A.	46
Major T. P. Cleveland, 54th	51	Mr. Jos. McKeage, M.R.A.	46
Sergt.-Major W. Findlay	49	Pte. M. A. Harvey, 54th	45
Pte. E. A. Cleveland, 54th	47		

Team Match—For teams of five members each from any company in the regiment. Ranges, 200 and 500 yards. Nos. 3, and 1 companies scored 201 points each, but No. 3 leading at the longer range won the match.

Aggregate Prizes.—1st, Pte. M. A. Harvey, 96 points D. C. R. A. silver medal and \$5. 2nd, Major L. Thomas, 91 points P. Q. R. A. badge and \$5. 3rd, Staff-Sergt. E. A. Cleveland, 91 points, \$3. 4th, Major T. P. Cleveland, 90 points, \$2.

Ancient and Modern Swords.

The famous Damascus blade may now be relegated to the limbo of exploded myths. Endless stories have been told of this peculiar weapon, which, in fact, is rather Persian than Syrian, and probably was originally welded from the hand-made steel of India. There is no longer any doubt that the wavy pattern, discernible on the best Persian blades, may be found in the little cakes of "wootz." A bath of diluted acid will make this self evident to any experimenter. The process of manufacture also tends to develop this "skeiny" effect, due, in the first place, to somewhat complex causes. One of these cakes is insufficient to make a sword blade; it must be composed of three at least, and a heavy blade—like those most prized in the East—would probably require eight, as the cakes seldom exceed two pounds in weight. These cakes being first drawn into bars, must be welded together, thus forming laminæ by necessity, and not by choice originally; and as the workmen could not fail to discover that, by increasing the number of laminæ the beauty and the quality of the blade would be improved proportionately, they had to double the complex bar on itself, and weld again; and thus by repeating the operation increase the number of laminæ at pleasure. In a blade forged from such a bar as that just described, the laminæ, or plates, must necessarily be very thin and in the process of grinding and polishing break into each other; the indentations of the hammer increasing the diversity of figure, and thus completing all those varieties of pattern so eagerly sought after in every country and for many centuries. It may be well to mention that oriental sword blades are very hard, and so heavy as to be useless for any kind of fencing or broad-sword exercise. The dagger of Saladin, which was coiled up in his turban, is a flight of the novelist's imagination. The best Damascus blades are very stiff, as a weapon should be. The modern English sword may be used equally well for offence and defence, and is—all the romance of Damascus and Toledo to the contrary notwithstanding—of as good steel as ever was forged in those famous cities.

The process known as tempering was once held to be a prime trade secret. Andrea Ferrara always performed the operation in the dark; and it was in consequence of his driving a sword-blade through a workman whom he found concealed in his private forge, that he was compelled to forsake Italy for Scotland. There is a method of tempering swords in oil raised to a high temperature; but the method most favoured by the English workman is that of passing the blade through the fire until it takes a certain hue, known only by long experience. The steel has now acquired the proper degree of toughness, and may be subjected