

many instances the money would be a God-send should be deprived of it by their officers; men who should be less avaricious of prize-money and better able to do without it. The reason for this superiority of officers over their men is unquestionably the fact, that they are men of more means and leisure at their command. This is one of the greatest evils of the present system, and one which can and ought to be remedied. An officer is never, even were he so inclined, allowed to use a rifle in any engagement, his weapons are his sword and his revolver, but as the introduction of breech-loaders has almost entirely done away with hand to hand conflicts his revolver must be the main weapon of defence. In place of allowing officers to enter in all matches where a private is allowed to compete, I would suggest that certain of the matches be set aside for privates exclusively, and that the best prizes be reserved for them in place of for the small bores, as in the late matches. A match for officers in which the Revolver alone be used would be far more in keeping with their position as officers.

There are many other changes that might be made in the same direction and to signal advantage, but I will leave to others the task of penning the many and loud complaints against the small bore monopoly that were to be heard at Laprairie: contenting myself if I have secured your interest in behalf of the much-abused but all suffering privates.

I am, yours &c.,

A VOLUNTEER OFFICER.

Oshawa, Sept. 28th, 1868.

FROM MONTREAL.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Your able and full remarks on the subject of the recent Rifle Association meeting at Laprairie, as set forth in your editorial of last week, has left me but little else to add on the matter. As you say small bores were allowed too much privilege to the detriment of the real weapon of the force—the Snider, the use of which should be encouraged on all possible occasions and in every possible manner. It would also be well to hold the next meeting earlier in the season, say in August, the chances of dry weather are much greater: a desideratum which would tend much to the comfort and ease of the men and to good results in firing.

There is no doubt that all parties will be stimulated to excel in next year's meeting, the spirit of rivalry being thoroughly roused, and which will doubtless tend to create an excellent body of Canadian marksmen, a credit to themselves and country. Much has been said about partiality being shown to favored individuals at the recent meeting, I have learned nothing to substantiate this report, faults—many faults were committed, but this cannot with justice be cast against the committee. The whole affair, being as it was the first of the kind, was

purely experimental, and experience has taught much wisdom, and all difficulties and annoyances will be smoothed over for the meeting next year.

It is a great pity that some people mistake their calling or profession, and are so puffed up with conceit, pride and self-satisfaction that they cannot see the ridiculous figure they cut.

Extreme disgust, or I should rather say amusement, was created by a certain individual, high in rank and his own estimation; one of those oddities one meets with occasionally, a veritable haw! haw! demmed fine! who affected snobbery in its fullest details. To dilate on the absurd antics of this lavender-kid individual would affect his very weak and senseless nerves, so I will spare him much. Let me tell him, and I speak as others say, that in his attempts at officiousness he better take the hint ere he find plain speaking too uncomfortably for him.

The appointment of Colonel McDougall to the Adjutant Generalship, under the new Militia Law, gives universal satisfaction. Colonel McDougall is a popular man, a valuable and efficient officer, capable and fully up in his duties. An earnest worker in the Volunteer cause, kind and affable to all, earnest in his endeavors to promote the interests of the Force, he is the best man that could be chosen for this important position.

It is to be hoped suitable and proper selections will be made for the posts of Deputy Adjutant General. We want officers who can command the esteem and respect of our brave Volunteers, not strutting fools and uniformed dandies. There have been a good deal of this trash palmed off upon us, and men, who really are as ignorant of their duties as it were possible to conceive, are suddenly invested with a title as long as your arm. Merit and sterling qualities should be the guide in choosing officers, and all favoritism and party favors should be frowned down. Lieut. Colonels Cassault, Smith, and Captain Harwood are the parties spoken of a Deputy Assistants Adjutant Generals. Lt. Colonels Cassault and Smith have already been before the public in connection with the Force. Of Captain Harwood, M. P. P. for Vaudreuil, little is known of his claims for a staff officer. There are several gentlemen who have had long and great experience among Volunteer officers, men who have been in the Force since the beginning who have studied and perfected themselves, more fit for the position than a gentleman whom no one doubt to be a truly honorable and loyal person but who has taken no active or prominent position in Volunteer affairs. It may be found that the Adjutant General knew perfectly what he was about when he appointed Mr. Harwood. We shall see, and perhaps may find we have been too hasty; if so shall be glad to retract.

What are "smooth" bores? is a query that suggests itself after reading your last

weeks editorial. I infer you mean "smooth" bores. This is a common error that many have crept into.

Brigade Major Healy left for England on Saturday last on recommendation of the Medical Board. Cap Healy is an efficient officer, we wish him a safe journey. He will report to the Adjutant-General in London.

Considerable progress has been made in the construction of the drill "shed." The roof is being put on, and in a few days the building will be covered in.

I notice the press writers call it a drill shed, why shed? I turn to my dictionary and find: shed, a slight building or covering! Now, is its application meant to convey a joke or a pun? It surely merits the name of Hall, to call it a shed, is to give any one who has not seen it, a poor idea of its solidity and grandeur.

The two men of the Grand Trunk Brigade, who were tried for insubordination and misconduct by court martial, were, as a local paper says "honorably" acquitted. They were acquitted I allow, but not honorably, their comrades undertook to judge them afterwards, and ignominiously ejected them from the ranks. So much for two sides of the story.

We hail with pleasure the arrival of the bands of the Rifles and 78th Highlanders which arrived here from Quebec on Wednesday morning.

Whilst these bands have been absent from the city, we have had comparatively little Military music. The band of the Rifle Brigade is certainly the finest of the kind in Canada and we are glad to welcome it back again.

Col. Lyons, Assistant Adjutant General, has reported his arrival and resumed the duties of his department.

A special meeting of the Diocese of Montreal, for the election of a successor to the late lamented Bishop and Metropolitan, is called for Tuesday, the 10th of November.

30th WELLINGTON BATTALION

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Annual Shooting Match of No. 6 (Ex-amosa) Company took place on the 3rd inst. The Township Council grant and private subscriptions footed a very liberal list of prizes, and so even was the shooting that several ties had to be shot off before the following score could decide the result of the successful competitors. Ranges 200 and 300 yards; 5 shots at each.

Private Wishart,.....	31 pts
" Simpson,.....	29
" Martin,.....	29
" Smith,.....	28
Sergeant McDonald,.....	28
Corporal Swinford,.....	28
Private A. Johnson,.....	28

Private Wishart thus became winner of the 1st prize and holds the Company Medal for the current year, the remainder take prizes as they stand.