

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

A Weekly Journal devoted to the Interests of the Active Force of the Dominion.

Third Year.
VOL. III, No. 11.

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, 15th SEPTEMBER, 1887.

\$1.50 per annum in advance.
Single Copies Five Cents.

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Comment and Criticism.

TWO members of the sixty from whom next year's Wimbledon team will be chosen, were placed in wrong order in our issue of last week. The mistake was not material inasmuch as it is very improbable that either the fiftieth or fifty-first man will have to be called upon to complete the team, but it is just as well to rectify it. The names of Staff-Sergt. Ogg, and Lieut. Abbott should be transposed, the latter properly being fiftieth and the former fifty-first. Their totals both in the grand aggregate and Governor-General's match were the same, and the record had to be examined further back to determine the tie.

THE Dominion Artillery Association's competition at the Island of Orleans closed on Saturday last, but the official detailed scores have not yet been made up. We hope to secure them for publication next week. The prize for the "A" shift was won by the Prince Edward Island detachment; that for the "B" shift by the Montreal Garrison Artillery. No. 5 battery of the M.G.A. came first in the 64-pounder firing competition, and in the 40-pounder New Brunswick headed the list. The officers' competition was won by Lieut.-Col. Armstrong, N.B.G.A., with Lieut. Fraser, P.E.I.G.A., second. The Governor-General and Lady Lansdowne paid a visit to the artillery encampment on the Island on Wednesday of last week, and were entertained at lunch by Lieut.-Col. Oswald, the president of the D.A.A. Among other distinguished guests present were Sir Adolphe Caron, Minister of Militia; Major-General Sir Fred. Middleton and Lieut.-Col. Duchesnay, D.A.G. During the afternoon the visitors were greatly interested for some time in witnessing the firing, which was then being carried on by No. 4 detachment of the Montreal Garrison Artillery.

THERE is a wide difference between the views advocated by our correspondent who writes this week on the subject of the disposition of the government grants to rifle associations, and those respecting the participation of officers in rifle matches which, a few weeks ago, we joined another correspondent in combatting. To a casual observer it might appear otherwise—and we fancy from his letter that "Lt.-Col." has mistaken our contention. We quite agree with him that some means should be devised to secure that the government grant shall be devoted in the main, if not altogether, to the encouragement of the rank and file in learning to shoot, rather than that it should fall to the officers. In a number of regimental associations the officers who assist

by their presence at the matches make it a rule not to accept money prizes to which their scores may entitle them. They compete for the love of the sport, and that their attendance may bring forward the men of their companies, to whom their officers may render invaluable assistance on the range. It is a class of officers such as the latter whom we would be loath to see excluded from participation in the provincial and dominion competitions, for it is their taking part in these matches which keeps up their enthusiasm in rifle shooting, and the honors and emoluments there to be obtained are a reward for the loss of time and expense involved in attaining proficiency with the rifle.

NOT a little criticism adverse to the Northwest Mounted Police and the management of that fine body has recently appeared in the papers of Eastern Canada. How little justification there exists for these attacks is made manifest by a perusal of the following from the *Calgary Herald*, a paper certainly in a position to be well posted on the subject: "We hold that the prevention of crime is the most useful purpose that any police force can serve, and in this respect Commissioner Herchmer's force has been most successful. The strongest argument used by those who imagine that the force is not as efficient as it was, is the number of desertions that have taken place. They point to the large number of men who took French leave last year and say that the men have become disgusted with the management of the force and are leaving as fast as possible. A moment's thought, however, shows the fallacy of such a conclusion. It must be remembered that last year the force was increased from 600 to nearly 1,000 strong, and the taking on of such a large number of recruits explains the large number of desertions. Dozens of young fellows joined the police from Eastern Canada, who when they got there, found that they were not adapted for the work and they took the first chance they could to desert. The fact that very little effort was made to recapture them shows that the officers were prepared for a weeding out and were glad of it. They believed that a policeman who had to be kept in a guard room would be of little service to the country. This is the true reason why the desertions last year were more numerous in proportion to the number of new men taken on than in any other since the force has existed. The fact is the present year will show a large reduction in the average of desertions, and as a rule the men are well satisfied with their treatment. The Commissioner has done a great deal to elevate the honor, morality and general respectability of the force and to make the policeman's lot a happy one."

THE force has always aroused the admiration of visitors to the Northwest Territories, who have been unanimous in their praise of the men—their fine physique and steady appearance, their excellence in drill, and the cheerfulness with which they set about discharging any duties assigned to them. Their superiors it would be hard to find anywhere, and it would be a matter for genuine regret were it really found to be the case that the force has been deteriorating to such an extent as has been untruthfully claimed