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Topics of the Week.

Immediately following the great rifle tournament to be held at Ottawa next week, there will be a gathering of the garrison artillery of the Dominion, at the Island of Orleans, Quebec, for the Dominion Artillery Association competition commencing on the 9th September. At this there are expected to be twenty-four batteries present, made up as follows:—Six of the Halifax Brigade; three New Brunswick; three Prince Edward Island; six Montreal; two Levis; one Quebec; one Digby, N.S.; one Yarmouth, N.S.; and one Pictou, N.S. Ontario will not be represented, as Cobourg, the only efficient garrison battery in the province, has done its practice at headquarters.

"The Canadian Score Book," a neat and handy register for rifle men, has just been issued by Messrs. J. & A. McMillan, of St. John, N.B. Beside each score are blanks in which to record all particulars respecting wind, weather, aim, etc., which the most painstaking rifleman could desire to note; and there are large diagrams also upon which to mark the position of the hits recorded. In a stout leather cover, the book costs 50c.; and the cover being detachable the book can be refilled for 15c. when exhausted.

An active interest in rifle shooting is evidently being worked up in the permanent force. At nearly all the provincial meetings there have been competitors from the permanent corps stationed in the locality, and at the Dominion meeting at Ottawa next week there promises to be like representation. The Imperial Army will be represented by a team of the West Riding Regiment, stationed at Halifax, and Her Majesty's Navy by a team from the *Bellerophon*.

This paragraph, from a Brantford paper, is one of a kind too often called for in connection with band parades:—"The Dufferin Band found a grievance yesterday and absolutely refused to play for the regiment on the march from the Crystal Palace to the Armoury and depot. Had it not been for the bugle band there would have been a pretty mess! Such childish conduct on such an occasion cannot be too severely treated. It was shameful." Commanding officers have themselves to blame if they allow their bandsmen to be sufficiently masters of the situation to show insubordination in any form. A musician derives sufficient advantage through military connection to make him regularly enrol if called upon to do so, and once enrolled he becomes amenable to military discipline, and should not be allowed to act otherwise than as a soldier.

The P. Q. R. A. executive have raised themselves not a little in the estimation of shooting men, by reconsidering the ruling out of those

teams whose scores at the recent prize meeting were not stated on the aggregate tickets they handed in precisely as they appeared on the official registers. The scores recorded have now been allowed in each case. The association should now go further and abolish the rule, which is manifestly a harsh one, and places it in the power of any careless or evil-disposed register keeper, not closely checked by the range officer, to wreck the chances of any team by mis-recording the score of any single member at any range of the competition. To the credit be it said of the men who act as register keepers at our rifle meetings, they are as a rule very careful and conscientious, but it is not fair for an association to place greater confidence in them for accuracy and honesty of purpose, than in the competitors, who are held responsible for every discrepancy, the possibility of their being right and the register keeper wrong not being admitted.

The Dufferin Rifles at Hamilton.

(Brantford Expositor, 24th August.)

Veni, vidi, vici! might be the language of the Brooklyn regiment who took part in the military parade in Hamilton yesterday. And it would not require a very great stretch of the imagination to apply it to Col. Jones and the men of Dufferin Rifles. The thousands who lined the streets were prepared before they saw them, to shout a welcome to the Americans, but when they saw the soldierly, though sombre, Dufferins marching steadily, and equally well with the more attractively uniformed Brooklyn men, they found plenty of applause for the boys from Brantford. And there was no cause for anyone from Brantford to be ashamed of the Dufferins. Though the regiment was got together in less than a week, it was complete in all its departments and created a most favourable impression. The regiment was due to leave here for Hamilton at 10.30, a time when anyone knew it could not, as the train from Harrisburg had the right of way, and was due here at 10.55. It was a stupid piece of business and the same stupidity kept the regiment on the road home from 11.18 p.m. until 2.00 a.m. There was no good excuse for either annoyance. The Dufferin Rifles reached Hamilton at 12.30 noon, and were received by Mayor Doran, Col. Gibson, Major Mason, Major Van Wagner, Capt. Stuart and Lieut. Domville. As soon as the officers had been introduced the Dufferins formed up on the platform and proceeded to the Fair Grounds where they were soon seated at lunch in the horticultural building. The parade state showed 284 men of all ranks, the largest parade the regiment ever made, and the comments of the people were generally satisfactory. The ambulance and bicycle signal corps were departments that were regarded with much favor by the Brooklyn men. The officers were as follows:—Lt.-Col. C. S. Jones, Major B. H. Rothwell, Major T. H. Jones; Adjutant, Capt. W. A. Wilkes; Surgeon, Wm. T. Harris; Asst.-Surgeon, H. Minchin; Paymaster, Capt. J. S. Hamilton; Quartermaster, Capt. R. R. Harris; Captains H. J. McGlashan, H. F. Leonard, J. H. McLean, W. D. Jones. and C. M. Nelles. Lieuts.—Ruddy, Killmaster, Frank, Curtis, Park, Jenkins, Rubidge and Bown. There were but five companies but they made a good showing. After lunch the men fell in for the parade and it was a James Dandy. For more than three hours Duffers, Brooklynites and the local red coats