

### The Military Rifle League.

The fourth match of the Canadian Military Rifle League series of seven, was fired on Saturday afternoon last, 12th July—or rather was completed on that day, for several of the teams who could not use the ranges on the 12th of July on account of the Orange holiday celebrations or from other causes, were permitted to fire on the previous Saturday instead. These teams included, so far as reported, those of Toronto and Montreal, and the 82nd Battalion. The weather conditions appear to have been generally favourable, and the scoring was the highest yet recorded, the 53rd Battalion, of Sherbrooke, leading with the splendid total of 849—the best yet made—and five other teams going above 800 points for the ten men.

It will be noticed that the 54th Battalion not only retain the first place, which they have held since the beginning, but have increased their lead from 65 to 82 points over the next team. The senior ten of the Halifax Garrison Artillery are the second team, and they too have held their present position from the beginning. The probabilities are that these teams will maintain their respective places to the last, for it is hardly probable either that the H.G.A. will in the three remaining matches pull up the 82 points lead of the 54th, or lose to the teams next in order their own still greater lead. The 53rd Battalion and the 13th Battalion, now third and fourth, have changed places; the Bowmanville team of the 45th Battalion are still fifth, with a hard task before them to improve their position, and very closely followed by the 21st Essex Fusiliers, who have made another splendid average, showing that the performance which first attracted general attention to them was no chance work. The 96th Battalion team, from Port Arthur, have again gone unexpectedly high, their total of 829 being the second highest in this match, and in the previous shooting surpassed only once, and then by but one point. This team now occupy seventh place, to which they rose from twelfth by this grand score. The 63rd Halifax Rifles, and B Battery, R.C.A., who made a brilliant start, cannot keep up with the procession, but losing a place or two every match are now eighth and ninth. The Lindsay team of the 45th Battalion are keeping well up, having gained in this match one of the two places lost in the previous one, and being now tenth; no other corps shows two teams whose scoring nearly equals that of the 45th Battalion. The eleventh place is held by the Governor General's Foot Guards, who since the start have improved their position at the rate of three places for every match. Their friendly rivals from Ottawa city—the 43rd Battalion—are twelfth, only two points behind for the four matches; the teams shoot side by side on Rideau range; their scores have been very even all through, and they tied at the end of the third match. The teams of Toronto's three crack shooting corps are also very close, the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth places in the League being held by the 12th York Rangers, the 10th Royal Grenadiers and the Queen's Own Rifles, in that order. Before the last match the 10th and 12th were having the race for Toronto supremacy all to themselves, tying at the end of the third match with 2,146 points each and the Queen's Own 98 points behind; but in the fourth the last named made the high total of 815 whilst the others made but average scores, and thus the interest of the contest was largely increased for the Toronto riflemen. The 82nd Battalion, of Charlottetown, have lowered a place to sixteenth, and the seventeenth is the team of the Victoria Rifles, who, low as they are, are more than two hundred points ahead of the next team from Montreal, whose excellence in marksmanship appears to be surely declining, consequent no doubt on the closing of the city range at Point St. Charles, and the greater time and expense, to say nothing of the inconvenience, involved in using a range many miles out of town.

While attention is mainly centred upon the leading teams of the fifty-two competing in the League, the performances of those holding the lower positions are no less worthy of notice, for these consist for the most part of tyros, who but for the establishment of the League would not have been seen upon the ranges at all. As will be noticed upon examination of the scores, the shooting of these teams steadily improves as the season advances, and there is good ground for hope that this shooting will develop a taste for the practice which will have a most desirable effect in increasing the number of our sharpshooters and marksmen of various degrees of skill.

#### THE WEATHER.

The following are the reports received of the weather, wind and light: Belleville, 9 o'clock wind, light dull; Bowmanville, fine, 6 o'clock; Brantford, showery, no wind; Charlottetown, rainy, rear fishtail, dull; Essex Centre, fine, moderate 5 o'clock, very bright; Halifax, fine, rear fishtail, dark and hazy; Hamilton, good, light 11 o'clock, dull and hazy; Kingston, fine, light 4 o'clock, bright; Lindsay, fine, light 10 o'clock, good; Montreal, fine and hot, light 10 o'clock, bright; Orillia, fine and moist, 12 o'clock; Ottawa, hot, light 2 o'clock, variable; Niagara Falls, fine, rear fishtail, bright; Peterborough, strong 4 o'clock wind, bright;

Port Arthur, fair, light 2 o'clock, variable; Quebec, fine, gentle 3 to 5 o'clock, bright and hazy; Regina, changeable, thunder and hail storm, wind 9 to 3 o'clock, light variable; Sherbrooke, fair, slight, bright; St. John, N.B., fine, strong, bright; St. John's, Que., hot, no wind, very bright; Toronto, fine, moderate 11 o'clock, bright; Windsor Mills, dry, steady 8 o'clock, bright; Winnipeg, warm, light 11 o'clock, dark.

#### STANDING OF THE TEAMS.

The teams are given below in the order in which they now stand, the team totals of the four matches being published, together with the aggregate. Next week the individual totals will be given; the teams then being placed in the order of their scores in the fourth match. This is how they now stand in the aggregate:—

|   | May<br>17. | May<br>31. | June<br>14. | July<br>12. | Aggre-<br>gate. |
|---|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. 54th Battalion .....                       | 807        | 799        | 830         | 788         | 3224            |
| 2. Halifax Garrison Artillery, 1st team ....  | 797        | 757        | 817         | 771         | 3142            |
| 3. 53rd Battalion .....                       | 683        | 724        | 795         | 849         | 3051            |
| 4. 13th Battalion .....                       | 688        | 775        | 749         | 813         | 3025            |
| 5. 45th Battalion, Bowmanville .....          | 623        | 755        | 814         | 802         | 2994            |
| 6. 21st Battalion .....                       | 625        | 820        | 737         | 806         | 2988            |
| 7. 96th Battalion .....                       | 677        | 747        | 701         | 829         | 2954            |
| 8. 63rd Battalion .....                       | 756        | 696        | 738         | 759         | 2949            |
| 9. B Battery R. C. A. ....                    | 748        | 767        | 647         | 769         | 2931            |
| 10. 45th Battalion, Lindsay .....             | 652        | 769        | 722         | 776         | 2919            |
| 11. Gov. General's Foot Guards, 1st team ..   | 614        | 731        | 766         | 790         | 2901            |
| 12. 43rd Battalion, 1st team .....            | 576        | 738        | 797         | 788         | 2899            |
| 13. 12th Battalion .....                      | 648        | 744        | 754         | 746         | 2892            |
| 14. 10th Royal Grenadiers, 1st team .....     | 638        | 732        | 776         | 729         | 2875            |
| 15. Queen's Own Rifles, 1st team .....        | 622        | 657        | 769         | 815         | 2863            |
| 16. 82nd Battalion .....                      | 610        | 757        | 735         | 739         | 2841            |
| 17. Victoria Rifles, 1st team .....           | 528        | 733        | 758         | 784         | 2803            |
| 18. 8th Royal Rifles .....                    | 634        | 799        | 641         | 707         | 2781            |
| 19. 57th Battalion .....                      | 688        | 694        | 691         | 694         | 2767            |
| 20. Saskatchewan Rifle Assn. ....             | 738        | 619        | 675         | 656         | 2688            |
| 21. 62nd Fusiliers .....                      | 598        | 681        | 708         | 694         | 2681            |
| 22. 90th Battalion .....                      | 628        | 600        | 739         | 695         | 2662            |
| 23. F. Division N. W. M. P. ....              | 616        | 633        | 676         | 726         | 2651            |
| 24. Charlottetown Engineers .....             | 653        | 633        | 678         | 675         | 2639            |
| 25. Queen's Own Rifles, 2nd team .....        | 569        | 680        | 646         | 739         | 2634            |
| 26. 6th Fusiliers, 1st team .....             | 512        | 637        | 723         | 728         | 2600            |
| 27. P. E. I. Garrison Artillery .....         | 551        | 672        | 635         | 733         | 2591            |
| 28. 43rd Battalion, 2nd team .....            | 528        | 630        | 652         | 712         | 2522            |
| 29. Halifax Garrison Artillery, 2nd team .... | 600        | 600        | 644         | 671         | 2515            |
| 30. Montreal Garrison Artillery .....         | 439        | 665        | 651         | 740         | 2495            |
| 31. 5th Royal Scots, 1st team .....           | 448        | 608        | 723         | 695         | 2474            |
| 32. 10th Royal Grenadiers, 2nd team .....     | 526        | 565        | 595         | 601         | 2287            |
| 33. 9th Battalion .....                       | 403        | 622        | 617         | 631         | 2273            |
| 34. 37th Battalion .....                      | 491        | 590        | 589         |             |                 |
| 35. 35th Battalion, Orillia team .....        | 413        | 482        | 652         | 711         | 2258            |
| 36. 44th Battalion .....                      | 395        | 634        | 657         | 561         | 2247            |
| 37. 6th Fusiliers, 2nd team .....             | 427        | 544        | 631         | 601         | 2203            |
| 38. A Battery R. C. A. ....                   | 414        | 559        | 618         | 595         | 2186            |
| 39. 38th Battalion .....                      | 390        | 507        | 564         | 645         | 2106            |
| 40. C Company I. S. C. ....                   | 511        | 468        | 594         | 529         | 2102            |
| 41. Regina Rifle Assn. ....                   | 571        | 465        | 412         | 564         | 2012            |
| 42. Gov. General's Foot Guards, 2nd team ..   | ...        | 569        | 689         | 729         | 1987            |
| 43. 14th Battalion .....                      | 424        | 570        | 485         | 487         | 1966            |
| 44. 5th Royal Scots, 2nd team .....           | 292        | 426        | 526         | 614         | 1858            |
| 45. 49th Battalion .....                      | ...        | 455        | 606         | 726         | 1787            |
| 46. B Company I. S. C. ....                   | 317        | 437        | 461         | 562         | 1777            |
| 47. Governor General's Body Guard .....       | 325        | 462        | 490         | 484         | 1761            |
| 48. Victoria Rifles, 2nd team .....           | 257        | 421        | 478         | 532         | 1688            |
| 49. 1st P. W. R., 1st team .....              | 254        | 389        | 386         | 572         | 1601            |
| 50. 35th Battalion, Barrie team .....         | 356        | 447        | ...         | ...         | ...             |
| 51. 65th Battalion .....                      | 139        | 238        | 332         | 318         | 1027            |
| 52. 1st P. W. R., 2nd team .....              | ...        | 209        | ...         | 248         | 457             |

[No reports have been received from the 37th Bn., or the Barrie team of the 35th Bn., relative to the fourth match, consequently their totals cannot be given; and they are left on the list at the places they held after the third match.]

#### Not in the "Book Trust."

The statement has been widely circulated, probably by parties who wished it might be true, that John B. Alden, Publisher, of New York, Chicago and Atlanta, had joined the "Book Trust," which is trying to monopolize the publication of standard books, and to increase prices from 25 to 100 per cent. Mr. Alden sends us word that he has *not* joined the Trust, and there is not and never has been any probability of his joining it. The "Literary Revolution" which has accomplished such wonderful results within the past ten years, in popularizing literature of the highest character (no "trash" ever finds place on his list), still goes on. Instead of increasing prices, large reduction in prices has recently been made, particularly on copyright books by American authors. A catalogue of 96 pages is sent free to any applicant. One of the latest issues from his press is "Stanley's Emin Pasha Expedition," by Wauters, a very handsome, large-type, illustrated volume, reduced in price from \$2.00 to 50 cents. The work tells a most interesting and complete story, beginning with the conquest of the Soudan, and continuing through years of African exploration, the revolt of the Mahdi, the siege of Khartoum, with the death of Gordon, the return of Dr. Junker, besides the story of Stanley's own adventures, including his successful Relief Expedition. It is one of the best and most complete works issued upon the subject. Send Alden your address, and you will receive his 96-page catalogue, and from time to time specimen pages of his new publications. JOHN B. ALDEN, Publisher, 393 Pearl St., New York, also Chicago and Atlanta.