

Militia and Defence.

Allusion has already been made to the high place accorded in 1893 and 1894 to graduates of the Royal Military College of Canada by leading expert opinion in England. In 1894, and again in 1895, extensive military surveys were made for the Dominion Government.

All the gentlemen who executed the work were cadets within the last three years:—Messrs. F. B. Osler, R. W. Brigstocke, J. E. Beatty, N. S. Ridout, H. L. Gordon, F. N. Gibbs, P. E. Thacker, F. D. Lafferty, R. E. Tyrwhitt, A. T. LeFevre, A. A. Inksetter, F. E. Leach.

In this list there is repeated only one name previously mentioned.

The survey effected gained for these gentlemen the highest encomiums from the Dominion authorities, and the marked appreciation of expert military authorities in England.

Passing to drill:—The Queen's Cup for rifle shooting by teams of eight, is probably the prize which excites most thorough competition throughout Her Majesty's regular forces. The very best marksmen can alone have the honour of representing their respective corps in the contest.

In 1895, the victory in the match for the Queen's Cup was distinguished by success far surpassing any previous record. So great were considered the merits of the victorious team, that not merely were its members personally eulogized in the warmest terms of appreciation by the Viceroy of Ireland, and Field Marshal Lord Roberts on a specially appointed parade, but they were summoned from Ireland to Windsor Castle by Her Majesty, in order that they might receive their reward from the hands of the Queen of the British Empire.

On that team of eight, the Royal Military College of Canada was represented by a graduate of 1894, 2nd Lieutenant R. H. B. Magee, of the Royal Munster Fusiliers.

This year, a graduate of 1893 carried our college colours to victory at Cairo. Winning the grand aggregate in the military contests there, he came within one point of being champion marksman in Egypt, and captured the fencing championship.

Our representative was 2nd Lieutenant J. J. B. Farley, of the Prince of Wales' North Staffordshire Regiment.

In answer to congratulations from his Alma Mater, he wrote from Wady Halfa, on his way to face the enemy:—"It is very gratifying to know that the old R.M.C. still keeps an eye on her sons in whatever clime they may be, and I hope I may prove worthy of the privilege I enjoy of numbering myself amongst them."

This year again, this very month, graduates and cadets have had an opportunity of proving in public competition the excellent results of drill exercises here.

The College was represented at the Toronto military tournament by 14 persons.

The sergeant instructor, three graduates of 1890, 1891 and 1894 respectively, and ten cadets.

In eleven contests they took seven first prizes and five second places.

Lieutenant Panet, R.C.A., a graduate of 1891, tied with Lieut. Peters, G.G.B.G., in taking the greatest number of individual prizes.

Eight cadets:—Messrs. D. Weatherbe, J. A. Stairs, H. H. Syer, L. G. Bennett, C. deB. Doucet, F. H. Courtney, C. D. W. Uniacke, H. R. Payzant, took part in winning three first prizes and one second in five events.

The Queen's Own Rifles are deservedly held in the highest repute in Canadian public estimation, and it is therefore not to be wondered at, that the corps' display on the last Queen's Birthday parade was thought worthy of pictorial record by the unflattering camera, as a means to excite emulation throughout the service.

The view taken represents an approaching corps still a considerable distance away from the critical saluting point. In its press published form, the picture is aptly and truthfully entitled "Steady as a Rock," to which are added the words "Head of Queen's Own Rifles passing Saluting Point,—Colonel Vidal, D.A.G., Commanding."

The scene is one worthy of close examination by any one interested in drill. It furnishes an admirable proof of the excellence attainable by receptive recruits and efficient instructors. I have carefully examined its minutest details over and over again, and I am in a position to challenge any one, be he civilian or military expert, to