

## NURSERY AGGREGATE.

Mr. A. G. Ronan will present one of his patent orthoptics to each of the ten Nurserymen scoring highest in the seven matches. The ten highest now are:—

Pte. S. B. Green, 21st Bn.....	251	Corp. E. Swallow, 54th Bn.....	241
Lieut. Williamson, 45th (Lindsay)...	250	Bandsman Witty, 54th Bn.....	240
Sgt. J. C. Dixon, 21st Bn.....	247	Pte. L. W. Swallow, 54th Bn.....	237
Bandsman Whalen, 54th Bn.....	243	Lieut. A. Elliott, 12th Bn.....	236
Pte. McKenzie, 21st Bn.....	242	Dr. Williamson, Sask. R. A.....	234

## SINGLE SCORE PRIZES.

Mr. Jas. Foster, optician, of Toronto, offers a field glass for the highest score made in any one competition. For this Lieut. M. H. Healy, 54th Bn., and Capt. W. S. Russell, 45th Bn. (Bowmanville), head the list with 94 each. Mr. Thos. Mitchell offers a pair of shooting boots for the highest score made by a nursery man at any competition, and for this Sgt. D. McMillan, 82nd, and Lieut. Williamson, 45th (Lindsay), head the list with 91 points each.

The proprietor of the MILITIA GAZETTE offers a Snider rifle for the highest aggregate in any three of the seven League matches made by a paid-up subscriber to this paper. The best three scores put together so far stand to the credit of Lieut. M. H. Healy, of the 54th (87, 83, 94—264), who, like a sensible man, takes the MILITIA GAZETTE and does not allow his subscription to run in arrears.

The dates for the remaining four competitions of the League are the 12th and 26th July and the 2nd and 9th August. The first annual meeting will take place at Ottawa during the week of the D.R.A. competitions, and the prizes won this season will then be distributed.

## Correspondence.

[This paper does not necessarily share the views expressed in correspondence published in its columns, the use of which is freely granted to writers on topics of interest to the Militia.]

## A CHALLENGE WANTED.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—I read with some interest the recent letter in your paper in which the Thirteenth Battalion were invited to challenge the Twenty-first to a team competition. It seems to me that the challenge ought to come from the other side, the Thirteenth having an established record at home and abroad and the Twenty-first none, except in their own locality. I would suggest that the Essex Centre marksmen bring a team to the Provincial matches here next month, when they would have an opportunity to try conclusions with their friends from Hamilton.

TORONTO.

## THE ESSEX RIFLEMEN.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE.—That the League is causing a wonderful influence in rifle shooting throughout the Dominion there can be but little doubt, and I must say I was much pleased with the remarks of "A Friend of the League," in your last issue. He certainly gave the chronic faultfinders a just rebuke, and as for those poor unfortunates who insinuate dishonourable tactics, they are hardly worth mentioning. As I happen to be well acquainted with, and an old member of, the Essex Centre Rifle Club, I feel bound to defend them from such attacks as our friend "G." "Hamilton," thought to make on them. I cannot understand why he did not direct his time and abilities against the 54th, whose two scores in succession were certainly more remarkable than that of the 21st.

Through the efforts of an old member of the 7th, a rifle club was established in Essex Centre about six years ago, composed of the best men of that town, who purchased Turner rifles and practised every week, and I have frequently seen them make an average of 80. The last time I had the pleasure of seeing them at their butts they made an average of 79. Although Mr. "G." may never have heard of them (I fancy there are other things he has not heard of), they are well known in the west, having won every match they ever shot, and at last were unable to get a team to shoot against them. They then joined the 21st in order that they would be able to shoot at Toronto and Ottawa. Last year I noticed that their representative at Torontostood seventh in the grand aggregate.

The C. M. R. L. is doing the work intended in allowing teams of this kind to test their strength, and I think many good shots will be found in Canada who have never attended either the Toronto or Ottawa matches. Our friend "G." must have been still more surprised when he found that ten men could make 830. And I hope that that score will be surpassed before the shooting is over. Wishing the League and its promoters every success,

Welland, 30th June, 1890.

S.

## Regimental and Other News.

A drill competition of the companies of the 57th Battalion, Peterborough, recently concluded, has resulted as follows: No. 1, 73; No. 2, 66; No. 3, 61; No. 4, 58; No. 5, 54; No. 6, 58.

This is from the *Stratford Times*: "The London Field Battery, under the command of Col. Peters, is one of the best disciplined batteries in the province, and the Colonel himself one of the best drilled men in the Dominion. The battery gave a good account of themselves while here, not a complaint being made against any one of the men."

The camp of the fifth military district, held at Compton, terminated on the 5th inst. It was one of the most successful in the history of the district, Lt.-Col. Houghton and all the officers agreeing in this opinion. The ground has proved a splendid one, hardly a drill was lost, the supplies were good, and the rifle practice is reported as being above the average. The men made a vast improvement in drill, the crudity they displayed at the opening of the camp having entirely disappeared, and as they left the field they formed a very creditable body of militia.

A Toronto correspondent writes: "How is it that you have had nothing about the funniest incident of the brigade camp at Niagara? Here it is: For the sham fight the officers of the 36th Battalion were given the assistance of an expert in the person of a permanent corps officer, who lucklessly led his forces into such a position that they were surrounded by the enemy, under command of Major Lloyd of the 12th Battalion. The incident, I am told, was witnessed and commented upon by the party of Toronto notables, including Mayor Clarke, visiting the camp on that occasion, and they were not a little amused at the manner in which the 'amateur' officer out-generalled the 'professional.'"

The band of the 43rd Rifles, Ottawa, has been disbanded. This step is, it is said, but a preliminary to organization upon a new and improved footing, the regiment being happy in the recent acquirement of a thoroughly efficient bandmaster. That the reorganization is not to be proceeded with immediately is perhaps due to a mishap which the people of Ottawa allowed to occur on Dominion Day, for which occasion, through the enterprise of the officers of the 43rd, Liberati's famous military band had been secured for the entertainment of the citizens of and visitors to the Capital, where Liberati himself once lived and led a military band. The three concerts given, on the 30th June and 1st July, were in aid of the 43rd Band fund; they resulted in a deficit of about \$700, which was made good by the officers.

Sir Frederick Middleton has written a farewell letter to the officers and cadets of the Royal Military College, and expressing satisfaction with the institution, owing mostly to the care with which the officers of the college are selected, the exceptionally good service rendered by them, and the excellence of the material of the young men of Canada that they have to work on. The Commandant, in reply, in the absence of the cadets, "felt that he could truly say for them that they have ever looked to you as one who has always had their best interests at heart, and whose sympathy and kindness were unfailing resources. They will reciprocate your warm feeling toward them, and in after years think of you with gratitude for your successful efforts to restore peace at a painfully critical time in their country's history. Those connected with the college wish that the future may be all that kind recollection can hope for you."

Were the militia everywhere so handsomely treated as are those of Orillia, the ranks would certainly be filled to overflowing. On the occasion of the return of No. 7 Company of the 35th Battalion from the district camp, the townspeople gave them a very enthusiastic welcome, the civic officials, the clergy and the ladies uniting to carry out the happy affair, which was very properly inaugurated by a substantial meal for the hungry volunteers. After luncheon Mayor Slaven officially welcomed the company home, and spoke of the pride he felt in them and in the regiment of which they formed part. Rev. Canon Greene followed, being equally complimentary in his remarks. Major Burnet made a happy reply. The volunteers gave cheers for the Queen, Mayor Slaven, Major Burnet, Capt. Drinkwater, and the ladies, and marched to their armoury. Before dismissing the company, Capt. Drinkwater expressed great satisfaction with the conduct of the men, and said the credit so generously accorded to "No. 7" was very largely due to the non-commissioned officers, who had fitted themselves for their duties by attending military school.

## The Niagara Camp.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—The camp at Niagara deserves a more careful and critical notice than it has received either in your columns or in those of the daily papers, whose reporters are better suited to gratify the curiosity of a careless public than to give a fair impression of the character and efficiency of the body of men who assembled on the 17th inst. This force, consisting of five batteries of artillery and six regi