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COMMENT AND CRITICISM.

The flood of addresses of congratulation to Sir Adolphe Caron and Sir Frederick Middleton continues unabated, the latest being an address to the General at Kingston on the 13th by the Mayor of the city on behalf of the corporation and citizens, and one to the Minister of Militia on Saturday by the Junior Conservative Club of Montreal, many of whose members came to Ottawa for the purpose of presenting it. In this action of all classes of the people there may be recognized the satisfaction of the country at large not only with the recipients of the congratulations but with the outcome of the insurrection and the way in which all concerned rose to the occasion. Sir Adolphe is very willing to acknowledge this on all occasions. In his reply on Saturday he refers to his subordinates in the Department as "men of great and wide experience, men whose devotion to their work was exhibited under very trying circumstances, men who night and day were always ready to do what was expected of them from the country to make the expedition a success."

The General, in his speech at Kingston, gave the highest possible praise to the Royal Military College, saying that it was not only the best college of the kind in Canada, but equal to any military college in the world, and he had seen many of them. It gave not only a military education, but an education that fitted the students for civil life as well. He delighted the citizens also by expressing himself as favorable to the future location of the district camp where it proved so successful this year.

The Guards' matches, a description of which we publish, suggest a novel way of making annual regimental rifle matches attractive, and evidently proved successful in this instance. It was a happy idea to order the regiment out so as to secure a good attendance, and the hint might profitably be taken by other city corps. Unfortunately rural battalions are not in a position to do the same, unless perhaps they could arrange their matches for the day their annual camp broke up, when the men might be kept together an extra day.

In our last few issues we have given the programmes of many rifle associations, and it will be found very interesting and instructive to compare them all, and to see the different ideas as to the best kind of matches to adopt. One association goes in for a large number of small matches, another for a very few large ones; one has most of the shooting at 400 yards, another sticks close to Queen's ranges, and affects 600 yards; one makes a specialty of skirmishing, and another of nursery matches. Of course in many cases these details are arranged to suit the particular class of competitors who are likely to shoot, but there is no doubt THE GAZETTE is doing a good work by bringing them all together and giving each gathering an opportunity of comparing its methods with those of others, whereby they can improve their programmes for another year.

Captain Ponton renews Col. Bog's suggestion in our columns that the dispensing of the annual allowance of ammunition should be delegated to the rifle associations of the several battalions, and that this would ensure more systematic firing. More systematic—yes; but more general—no. If there were any way in which the government could be assured that the same proportion of the force would fire as do at present we have no doubt they would gladly give over the ammunition, and even greatly increase the supply, but past experience in this direction has been unfavorable, especially in the case of a rural commanding officer, who was found to be selling ammunition at half price, although regularly made out target practice returns came in for the full amount supplied him. The officer was dismissed the service, but this method of serving out ammunition ended.

By the way, the erudition of Captain Ponton, in beginning his letter with an imposing Latin heading, rather awed us until a second glance disclosed a familiar old phrase that recalled our schoolboy days, when a sell of this kind was considered *potius alauda*.

In this number the publication of Capt. Perley's fourth and last lecture on "Rifles and Rifle Shooting" and with it a valuable feature of our paper heretofore, reaches its conclusion. The practical hints given by a practical rifle shot, and the varied information compiled respecting the history and theory of the rifle and the manufacture of ammunition, have been not only of the greatest interest but of the utmost practical value to young shots, and we hope they will be re-read and studied from the files of our subscribers. For the benefit of those who have not received the first numbers and who wish to have Capt.