

It will be awarded to the team having the highest aggregate in the "Dominion of Canada Match," D.R.A., 1896. It will not be necessary to name the team before the commencement of the competition—but only individuals who have shot for their battalion or association in the League Competition of 1896 are eligible to compete on teams for this prize. Entrance, free. Special cards will be issued, on application, by the secretary of the D.R.A. for this match; same to be completed by captains of teams, and handed statistical officer within one hour after completion of match.

The seventh annual meeting of the League, and presentation of prizes, will take place at the Russell House, Ottawa, on Wednesday evening, Sept. 2nd, at 8 o'clock.

DOMINION RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

THE prize list to be competed for at the D. R. A. meeting at Ottawa, commencing August 31st, has now been issued. The committee hope that the amended regulations will be the means of inducing an increased attendance of marksmen. The aggregate prizes amount to \$6,801, exclusive of prizes in kind.

The following prizes will be offered :
London Merchants' Vase ; Macdougall Cup ; British Challenge Cup ; Gzowski Challenge Cup ; Hon. Sir A. P. Caron's Challenge Cup ; the Lansdowne Challenge Cup ; the Walker Cups ; Hon. J. C. Patterson Cup ; Henry Corby Cup ; special cash prizes presented by the Hon. the Minister of Militia ; the Kirkpatrick Challenge Cup ; cup presented by Messrs. Davis & Sons, Montreal ; combined barometer, thermometer and clock by J. H. Steward, optician, London, Eng. ; N. R. A. Medal ; D. R. A. Medal, and numerous badges, as shown in the programme of 1896.

The following is a synopsis of the matches :

Nursery match	- - - - -	51 prizes
Hamilton Powder Company match	- - - - -	85 "
Macdougall Challenge Cup match	- - - - - cup, badge and	82 "
Dominion of Canada match—one team prize, the Davis & Sons Cup; prize presented by Hon. J. C. Patterson, late M. of M. and D., silver cup, badge and	- - - - -	100 "
Minister of Militia's match, teams	- - - - - cup and	7 "
	and individuals	82 "
The Walker battalion match	- - - - - two cups, 6 badges and	6 "
Henshaw match	- - - - - Silver cup presented by H. Corby, Esq., M.P., Belleville, and	87 "
The Kirkpatrick match	- - - - - 4 team prizes, cup and	87 "
Nursery aggregate	- - - - -	24 "
Lansdowne aggregate, teams	- - - - - cup and	8 "
Grand aggregate	- - - - - medals, badges and	100 "
Gzowski Challenge Cup match, military teams	- - - - -	7 "
British Challenge Shield match, military teams	- - - - -	7 "
His Excellency The Governor-General's match	- - - - - 10 badges and	3 "
London Merchants' Cup match	- - - - - cup and	2 "
Extra series "A" 500 yards	- - - - -	35 "
Extra series "B" 600 yards	- - - - -	35 "
Extra series "C" 800 yards	- - - - -	35 "
Extra series "D" 900 yards	- - - - -	35 "
Extra series aggregate	- J. H. Steward's gift, and cash	11 "

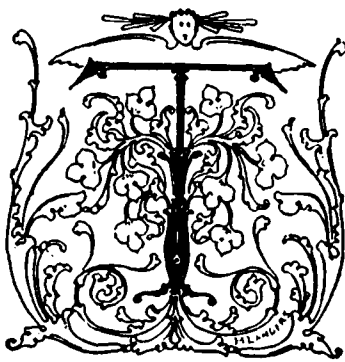
Cash prizes, 889

All matches will be competed for with the Martini-Henry rifle, and the ammunition will be sold on the range by the association.

EVERY SPORTSMAN SHOULD HAVE ONE.

The Smokeless S.S. Game Register is a small blank leaflet ruled for keeping a record of the amount of the different kinds of game shot, giving also the place and date. It is just the thing for a sportsman, especially if given to telling "true stories" of his prowess. This would be proof positive. Drop a card to the Smokeless Powder Co., 30 St. Sulpice St., Montreal, who will send one.

COMMANDANT OF BISLEY TEAM.



HE subject of the accompanying sketch, which we have pleasure in presenting to our readers to-day, is Lieut.-Cpl. George Ritchie Starke, commanding officer of the Victoria Rifles of Canada.

By the time this issue is in the hands of our subscribers it will have become generally known that Col. Starke has received the appointment to the command of the Bisley team of 1896.

We doubt if a more suitable or deserving officer than Col. Starke could have been appointed to this important and highly honorable office. It has sometimes happened in the past that some officer has been appointed to the command of the team by the authorities who has had no other qualification for the position than that of being a good worker for the party, and not a thought seems to have been given of other important and necessary requirements. It may be said by some that the commandant does not need to be a rifleman, but those of our readers who have been on the team know that the commandant must have a good knowledge of rifle shooting to keep in touch with his men, and to be looked upon as more than a mere political figurehead.

Lieut.-Col. Starke joined the Vics as a private in August, 1879, and was gazetted second lieutenant in November, 1882, captain January, 1886, major July, 1887, and on the retirement of Lieut.-Col. Henshaw he was gazetted to the command of the battalion in June, 1892, and a more hard-working and zealous C.O. it would be hard to find. Under his able command the Vics have pulled up to the top notch of efficiency in the Sir Donald A. Smith Cup competition, having won and held the cup ever since it was presented, excepting the first year, when it went to the 6th Fusiliers. Col. Starke's chief aim since taking over the battalion has been to raise the efficiency of his men, not only in drill, but in that most important duty of the soldier, rifle shooting.

He has encouraged the men to a higher degree of skill in the use of the rifle by every means in his power, notably so by personal example, and by handsome and frequent donations to the Rifle Association. Instructional lectures have also been given to the members of the battalion by competent marksmen at his instance.

A mention of any of the older members of the Vics cannot but bring to the recollection the Montreal Snow Shoe Club, organized in 1840, and of which Col. Starke was president for two years, 1884-1885. He won his spurs in this famous old club as long ago as 1875 by winning a prize for a cross-country snow-shoe race, and since then for some years he was always to be reckoned with in a steeplechase or flat race. A glance at Col. Starke's face will show the determined spirit in the man, and the same pluck and determination which carried him in a winner in many hard races has helped him along in his amateur military career, and we now have in him the beau-ideal of a commanding officer, beloved by all his men, very many of whom he is personally acquainted with, a first-rate drill, a good shot, and, best of all, possessed of that admirable quality, tact, which in so many otherwise good soldiers is lamentably deficient.

We would venture to say that one of his secrets of success lies in the cordial feeling that exists between himself and his non-commissioned officers. Every year Col. Starke calls them together and asks them to lay before him without reserve any ideas they may have for the improvement of the battalion, and any worthy suggestion is sure to have full consideration at his hands.