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The patriotic speech by Sir Adolphe Caron at the Lundy's Lane anniversary celebration last week was an eloquent answer to the abuse of late heaped upon the Minister of Militia by so-called "British" Canadians displaying not a tittle of the spirit of British fair play which animate this French-Canadian minister. The loyal sentiments uttered by Sir Adolphe are those of the great majority of French-Canadian descent in Canada, who, happy and contented under British rule, have no desire to be other than British subjects; but whom it has of late become fashionable in certain quarters to insult and goad to angry reprisal by insinuations of disloyalty.

Col. Gzowski's idea of a regimental team match for young shots, appears to have been incorporated by the Ontario Rifle Association in the preparation of this year's programme, a synopsis of which appears elsewhere in this issue. Last year \$77, in sixteen individual prizes, was all that was set apart for the encouragement of the younger shots. This year there is \$110 in twenty-seven individual prizes and also \$90 in four prizes for battalion teams of six officers, non-commissioned officers and men who have never won a prize at any Provincial or Dominion rifle meeting. This is a step in the right direction. The announcement of the team match is perhaps made too late to have any appreciable effect this year, except in bringing out new shots who are resident in the neighbourhood of Toronto. But let it be given out that such a competition may be expected annually, and we venture to predict that an effort will be made to enter teams from nearly every battalion making any pretence to rifle shooting, and the amount of local effort necessary to prepare the teams cannot but have a very beneficial effect.

We congratulate the Quebec Rifle Association upon amending the regulations governing its volley firing match, so as to make provision against a recurrence of the state of affairs giving rise to so much dissatisfaction last year. The fine for bad volleys is now to be from one to three points per shot, and the deduction is left, not to one officer alone, but to the discretion of the executive officer and two umpires previously appointed.

Anyone who has had experience of our brigade camps will appreciate this: "Lieut. W. R. Hamilton, U.S.A.," says the Peekskill correspondent of the *New York Times*, "made, July 15, a tour of the chain of sentinels. He was in uniform, but wore a cape which, of course, con-

cealed his shoulder straps. The bullion on his cap, however, gave sufficient indication that he was a commissioned officer. Out of the dozen sentinels whom he passed face to face only one saluted him. On the other hand, Pte. McBride, of the 2nd Battery, sailed down past the sentinels on Luxury row, and because he carried his sword was saluted by every one of them. All of which goes to show that so far as homage from sentinels at the State camp goes it is sometimes better to be a private in the 2nd Battery, National Guard, State of New York, than to be a commissioned officer in the 5th Artillery, U. S. Army." After all, it is not a matter for surprise that there is so much confusion in the soldier's mind as to what personages should be saluted. He is instructed how to give the salute, and told in a general way that it is for officers only, but how is an inexperienced recruit to know who are officers and who are not? The distinctions of uniform are seldom if ever carefully explained.

Sympathy with that portion of the United States press agitated over the defensive works at Esquimalt, B.C., is wanting in the *San Francisco News Letter*, which takes this common sense view of the situation: "A weekly journal that has hitherto been accounted friendly to England says that it cannot stand the fortification of Esquimalt, and is in favour of making it a *casus belli* if anything of the kind is attempted. It will perhaps surprise our contemporary to learn that such fortifications have not only been "attempted" but have progressed far towards completion. The great dry dock, built of solid masonry and capable, we believe, of accommodating any war ship that ever floated, was commenced more than ten years ago and has been completed for fully two years past. It was, of course, necessary to protect such ships as might be docked there and for that purpose forts have been built and heavy guns mounted. No ship of war could have passed between Esquimalt and the mainland for years past if England desired to stop her. That it is the intention of both England and Canada to establish a great naval rendezvous in the neighbourhood of Victoria has long been known. Indeed it was one of the conditions upon which British Columbia came into the Dominion. But it was Russia and not the United States that the parties were thinking about. The latter had begun to make Vladivostock the fortress it is. Besides, the Canadian Pacific railroad, as England's alternative route to India, had to be protected at all hazards."

At a meeting of the executive of the Dominion Rifle Association, held this week, it was decided to take action to prevent tampering with Snider rifle sights, which although already forbidden by regulation has been extensively indulged in. The chief abuse has been in the matter of widening the space between the uprights of the back sight, so that in some cases the bars were reduced to a shadow of their former substance. The "V" also has been altered, and the front of the foresight has in many cases been fyled off. A maximum width between the uprights of the backsight, and a minimum height for the foresight, will be proclaimed.