

A.A.'s first prizes for highest aggregate score in the competitions of those years for M.L.R. 9 prs.

The rules of the association were in 1881 changed so that the firing lost its prominence, but the battery has held its own under the changed conditions in that most efficient branch of our service.

The annual reports of the inspectors of artillery are highly creditable to this battery, more particularly when the fact is taken in consideration that, owing to the men being scattered, it has been found impossible to have any drill outside of the camps.

The following extracts from the criticisms of the special correspondent of the Montreal Daily Star on the militia in camp at St. Johns, P.Q., a few years ago, may be of some interest as giving a fair idea of what this battery is:—

"The Montreal troop of cavalry and the Shefford Field Battery carry off the palm. . . . And yet some corps look very well, indeed. Montreal can, I repeat, boast of its troop of cavalry and Shefford of its field battery. . . . The cavalry, artillery, and the 79th are broad-chested, tall, good-looking fellows. No regiment in the Imperial army, except the Horse Guards, can, I believe, man for man, outmeasure or outweigh the men of those three corps. And for neatness in dress, or style on parade, I do think that there is not a troop of cavalry in the army or a battery in the service that could look better at twenty yards' distance than the Montreal troop of the 65th Regiment and the men of the Shefford Field Battery. Their belts at church parade yesterday were faultlessly clean; their helmets burnished, their spurs brightened; their boots polished and they kept their step and dressing with faultless precision. Both troops and battery are a credit to the militia of the Dominion. . . ."

With the exception of the Montreal troop of Cavalry and the Shefford Field Battery, there were no words of praise lavished on the officers and men now at St. Johns. The old routine of flattery was laid aside, and both General Luard and the minister used such language, which is generally understood by the apt old phrase of saying that a spade is a spade, indeed. . . . To my left is the Shefford Field Battery. . . . and I decided to pay it a visit and learn a little more about its history, its internal economy, and its drill. The men are at the guns receiving instruction in gun drill, ammunition, construction of material, effect of shrapnell, common shell, and case shot, and an officer in charge offers to dismount and mount one of the pieces for my private inspection. I hold a watch and the men go to work; the gun is soon on the ground dismounted and soon it is in its place well on the carriage; I look at the watch and I see the time it took is only one minute and forty-five seconds and I marvel at the performance. It is a pleasure to see a sight such as this and I pass to the colonel's tent, and there learn that fourteen men in the ranks have gunnery school certificates, and I no longer wonder at the excellence the battery has shown on parade. The colonel is a scientific man, has passed through a course and I found that I was talking to a man who knew his business, and who did it without much ado."

In 1878, when Lord Dufferin visited this part of the Eastern Townships, the battery marched to Waterloo and fired a salute on his arrival there. Early the next morning the battery made a sharp march from Waterloo to Granby, twelve miles, in two hours, and arrived there in time to fire a salute on the arrival of Lord Dufferin, and take part in the reception given to this popular Governor-General.

Lord Dufferin inspected the battery, both at Waterloo and Granby, and complimented

the officers and men. Corporal Savage, who had won his medal at the competition, was called out at the request of His Excellency, and complimented. A salute was again fired at his departure.

The battery also took part in the Queen's Birthday celebration at Montreal in presence of Lord Lorne and Princess Louise, in 1879.

These were the principal occasions on which the battery mustered outside of its annual training in camp, local celebrations and attendance to competitions.

A large number of men have passed through its ranks since its formation. Many are still within the battery limits, and would be available in case of active service, if needed.

In the fall of 1897 the battery was made up to the full establishment of a six-gun battery, and camped over strength at Sweetsburg, and last year at Waterloo, where it attained perhaps its highest degree of efficiency.

Through the instrumentality of Col. Amyrauld and under his plans approved at headquarters, a magnificent gun shed and drill

Lieut. W. Gibson.
Lieut. A. H. Amyrauld.
Lieut. R. T. Seale.
Lieut. James Gaw.
Surgeon A. Gilmour.
Surgeon Lt.-Col. J. B. Gibson.
V. S. Geo. Vittle.

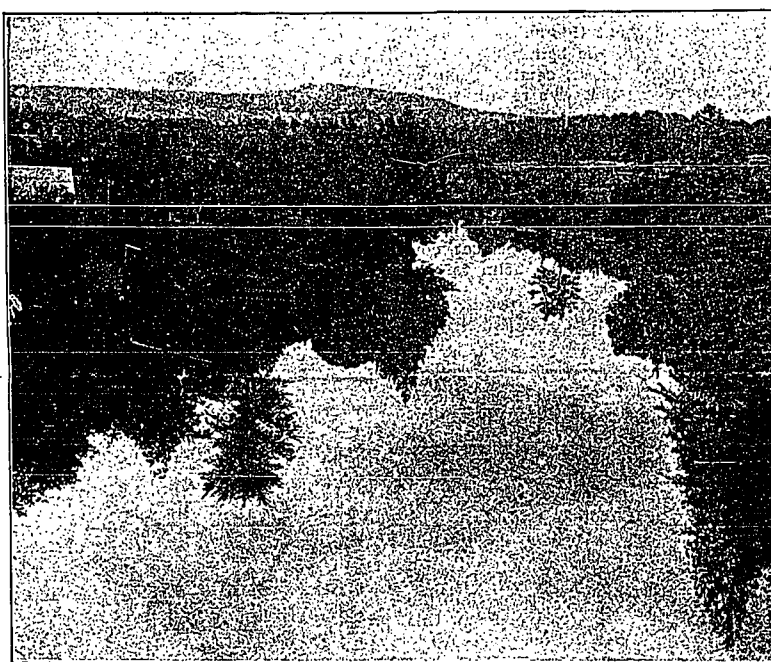
The present officers of the battery are:—

Lt.-Col. Amyrauld.
Capt. O. Amyrauld.
Lieut. W. R. Seale.
Lieut. C. McK. Cotton.
Lieut. C. W. Berry.
Surg.-Major Lambly.
Vet.-Capt. W. P. Scott.

Lieut.-Colonel Amyrauld, who has organized the battery, which has been under his command ever since, over twenty-seven years, is soon to be placed on the list of the reserve of officers owing to his tenure of command expiring under the regulations, and the command of the battery will pass to his son, Capt. Amyrauld, who will be promoted to the rank of major.

"SHRAPNELL."

Sweetsburg, May 31, 1899.



A TYPICAL BIT OF DISTRICT OF BEDFORD SCENERY

A view of the South Fork of the Yamaska River, in the Township of Dunham, looking East, the hills of Brome in the distance.

hall was erected recently at Granby for the use of the battery, at a cost of about \$5,000. It is probably the best and most commodious in the country, outside of cities. The guns and stores were moved into it last April.

A few weeks ago, upon the suggestion of Col. Amyrauld, that helmets would be desirable for the battery, S. H. C. Miner, Esq., Mayor of Granby, personally gave \$100, and the corporation an equal sum, for the purpose of procuring them. They have been ordered from England, and are expected here in time for the camp this year.

The battery has had also the honor of sending a representative, Sergt.-Major Latimer, in the detachment of selected Canadian troops, who went to England for the Queen's Jubilee.

The following officers have held commissions in the battery at different times, and have retired:—

Capt. W. Kay.
Lieut. W. Neil.
Lieut. C. B. Martin.
Lieut. S. Maynes.
Lieut. A. W. Mitchell.

"Not too dusty," is a slang term that doesn't apply at this season of the year in most of the villages in this district. Dust prevails almost everywhere and in great abundance.

There is a blacksmith in the District of Bedford who is said to be such a slow worker that the following story has been told about him: A farmer will drive to the village with a team of horses leading a third one behind his wagon. The led animal will be left at the slow blacksmith's for shoeing and the farmer will drive the team to another knight of the anvil seven miles distant, have the two horses shod and return before the shoeing of the third horse has been completed.

Mrs. Newryche—"What kind of spoons are those with the plecters on?"

Jeweler—"Those, madam, are called souvenir spoons."

Mrs. Newryche—"I'll take half a dozen Our new French cook makes delicious souvenr."