

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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No. 11 of 14th June.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Topics of the Week.

The order for the establishment of the new Seventh Fusiliers, of London, Ont., has been issued. That city should be able to support a first-class corps, and by all accounts Lieut.-Col. Tracey, to whom the command has been entrusted, is the right man to raise and maintain such an organization.

There are doubtless other corps in Canada who have records of prize winnings rivalling that of the Guelph Field Artillery, published last week, and who would be pleased to see a record of their achievements in print. To all such we would say: Prepare your record and forward it without delay. It will be welcome.

As will be seen by reference to the paragraph on the subject in our militia news columns, the district staff officers of the Maritime Provinces are setting an excellent example in the way of attendance at the military school. That an officer already holds the requisite certificate is no reason why he should not avail himself of the facilities for "rubbing up," especially when such radical changes in drill as those recently promulgated have occurred.

A monopoly of the telegraphic matches is being enjoyed by the Northwest associations this season, if we except the interesting contests being waged by the 1st Guelph Field Artillery, Guelph and the 1st Halifax Garrison Artillery. The latter have been easy winners in two contests. The opinion is prevalent in this part of Canada that the Bedford range, on which the Halifax men shoot, affords better conditions for high scoring than almost any other. But from whatever cause, remarkably high scoring is made there right along.

The Wimbledon Team.

Canada has sent eighteen representative teams to Wimbledon—including the irregularly organized pioneer team of 1871, under Col. Skinner—and the nineteenth sails this week on the Parisian, with Lieut. Col. Thos. Bacon, Militia Dept., Ottawa, in command, and Capt. John Hood, 5th Royal Scots, Montreal, as Adjutant. The team is an unusually strong one, as will be seen by a glance at the names published below. Whereas the average of the eighteen teams chosen under the present system was between twelve and thirteen new men on each (230 men make up the 18 teams) there are but nine members of this year's twenty who have not already shot at Wimbledon. One, the leader of the famed Mitchell brothers, goes for the sixth time; the likewise famous Ogg, (not "Wheeler" any more, but Staff-Sergt. instead) is a close second, now making the fifth trip. Staff-Sergeant Ashall goes for the fourth time, three others

for the third, and four it will be their second appearance. Sergt. McVittie who as private was for long a representative Scotch rifleman, being eight times in the first stage of the Queen's, returns to the scene of his former triumphs, doubtless with a good story to tell of the advantages of this land of his adoption. There are some very promising shots among the new men on the team. The list of the twenty is given below. The number on the left shows the order in which they stood on the roll of those eligible for Wimbledon. On the right there are printed the years in which the old timers have already represented Canada in England.

No. on List.

Previously with Team.

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. Staff-Sergt. T. Mitchell, 10th Royal Grenadiers | 1874-77-79-81-83 |
| 3. Staff-Sergt. R. McVittie, " " | (Came to Canada 1888.) |
| 4. Pte. J. A. Armstrong, G.G.F.G. | 1884-86 |
| 8. Sergt. J. Rolston, 20th Bn. | 1885 |
| 9. Capt. S. M. Rogers, 43rd Bn. | (first trip) |
| 10. Staff-Sergt. F. W. Curzon, 10th Royal Grenadiers. | " " |
| 11. Lieut. W. A. Jamieson, 43rd Bn. | 1885 |
| 14. Major A. P. Sherwood, " " | 1885 |
| 16. Lieut. J. A. Wilson, 33rd Bn. | (first trip) |
| 17. Staff-Sergt. F. G. Corbin, 63rd Bn. | " " |
| 20. Staff-Sergt. John Ogg, 1st B.F.A. | 1879-80-81-87 |
| 21. Lieut. W. Conboy, 30th Bn. | (first trip) |
| 22. Major B. A. Weston, 66th Bn. | 1878-81 |
| 23. Major T. J. Egan, 63rd Bn. | (first trip) |
| 24. Lieut. C. H. Dimock, 78th Bn. | " " |
| 25. Lieut. R. Blackmore, jr., 63rd Bn. | " " |
| 26. Corp. John Crowe, 1st B.F.A. | 1876-82 |
| 27. Staff-Sergt. W. Ashall, Q.O.R. | 1883-85-88 |
| 28. Pte. J. Horsey, 45th Bn. | (first trip) |
| 29. Sergt. M. C. Mumford, 63rd Bn. | 1886 |

The last change in the composition of the team took place on Saturday last, when Staff-Sergt. Pink, 43rd Battalion, Ottawa, was obliged to withdraw, owing to continued ill health. He is well up in years, and thinks he could not stand the voyage. The waiting man was Sergt. Mumford, 63rd Halifax Rifles. At Wimbledon most of the battalion team matches are for teams of six men. There is one, however, the Mappins, for battalion teams of four. Had Sergt. Pink not resigned, the 43rd would have been the first battalion to be able to enter such a team. His withdrawal transfers the opportunity to the 63rd, as they now have four men. The match consists of an obstacle race, with four obstacles in a quarter-mile course, and the firing of seven shots at four and seven at five hundred yards, the whole performance to be accomplished within five minutes.

Wimbledon A La Francaise.

(Paris letter in Volunteer Record.)

A truly ambitious attempt to acclimatise one of our national institutions, is to be made in Paris at present. The already time-honoured though, unfortunately, past glories of Wimbledon camp, with its windmill and "Earwigs," and its fading memories yet cherished by the senior and front lines of British marksmen, seemed to have fired the spirit of emulation amongst the "Sociétés de Tir et Gymnase" throughout France, to try and "go and do likewise." But, it will be a wretched imitation, not only out of real meaning or purpose, but also out of date entirely. It is more than a quarter of a century since the Queen's Gracious Majesty led off the firing festivals at home, by delivering the first shot, and striking fair on the bull's eye, as an incentive to the deadly