

maintenance of a powerful fleet on the North Atlantic is a matter of vital importance to Canada and to the Empire, and the immense increase made to the strength of the squadron of recent years must be as gratifying to loyal Canadians as it is disconcerting to that tribe of disgruntled people who pin their faith in a future dismemberment of the Empire upon the supposition that England does not place the least value upon her colonies. Our Halifax correspondence reports the arrival of the latest addition to the squadron, namely H. M. S. Mohawk, and it is just possible that she will visit the St. Lawrence this season.

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Perhaps too, but few Canadians know that the present commander of "our squadron," Vice Admiral Hopkins, is regarded as one of the three or four best officers of the navy. The service papers recognize this and one of them announcing the appointment of Sir George Tryon's successor the other day said:

"Admiral Sir Michael Culme-Seymour has been appointed commander-in-chief in the Mediterranean, in succession to the late Vice-Admiral Sir George Tryon. This appointment will give the greatest satisfaction to the service, which has promptly recognised the necessity for filling the post with a strong man. This is why it was the generally expressed opinion in naval circles that Sir John Hopkins would be selected, Sir Michael Culme-Seymour being passed over because he is an admiral, and the post has of late years usually fallen to a vice-admiral."

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Sir Charles Tupper is such a stalwart enthusiastic Canadian that we can excuse him drawing a long bow sometimes. In the course of his Dominion Day dinner speech at London he said: The whole of Canadian militia of 37,000 men could, in a moment of emergency, be placed under command of the Imperial commander-in-chief, and this Imperial force was maintained by Canada at an annual expense of \$1,300,000; the protective force for the Northwest Territories costs \$625,000 per annum; the fishery service comes to \$128,000 yearly. The war cruisers that run between British Columbia and Japan, China and Australia are aided by Canada yearly to the extent of \$200,000, while the Dominion was offering \$750,000 annually for a similar service on the Atlantic. "With this overwhelming evidence before us what more need be said of Canada's recognition of the duties of the Empire and her readiness in the future as in the past to bear her full share?" Just

fancy classing the fishery protection service with the force available for national defence, and one of the best of the cruisers bluffed out of doing its duty by an unarmed smuggling schooner.

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So Canada has failed to capture those Kolapore cups again. Well, she did her best and will have better luck next time, or Canadians hope she will. By the bye are not the Toronto Mail's special cables from Bisley a truly splendid series? They are a credit to Canadian journalism and cannot fail to be a great advantage to the militia force.

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What would have happened had there actually happened to be a riot in Montreal the Saturday evening of the Christian Endeavour Convention and had the militia been called out it is hard to say, for nearly all of the officers were out of town as usual for Sunday and in some cases, at any rate, officers who were by reason of seniority in command of battalions were blissfully ignorant of their own importance.

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It is a pity even in their own interests that shooting men do not take more interest in the skirmishing or military matches as they are called. Pushing backwards and forwards for an hour at a time with a rifle in your hand over the ditch obstructed meadows at Cote St. Luc or the boulder strewn swamp at the Rideau and incidentally trying to get in a shot at your target, when you have the good luck to be in such a position as to be able to see it, is not the pleasantest sport in the world, nor is it the gentlest, as you realize while you are nursing your barked shins and bruised fingers for the following fortnight; but then men do not enter the militia for pleasant or gentle sport. These military matches are all we have in Canada to encourage the most important departments of marksman-ship, distance judging, and quick firing, and of course there can be no doubt as to their practical value. Then the shooting men should consider that the corps to which they belong generally go to great expense and trouble to encourage their shooting teams and the return they look for is the capture of occasional trophies. If the shooting men are satisfied to let matches in which coveted trophies are offered as prizes, go by default just because their esprit de corps is not equal to their aversion to a little hard work they may find some of these days that the esprit de corps of their comrades does not find vent so freely as in contributions to the maintenance of the Regimental Rifle Association.

## Regimental Notes

### TORONTO.

Lieut. R. C. Levisconte, Queen's Own Rifles, of the firm of Millar, Riddle & Levisconte, was married lately to Miss Maggie Ross, second daughter of Mr. William Ross, manager Dominion brewery. The marriage which was private, took place at the residence of the bride's father, 17 Winchester street. The happy couple left by the Montreal boat the same afternoon intending to spend three months in Europe.

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At a meeting of the officers of the Grenadiers one evening it was decided to purchase new headgear for the whole battalion to replace the busbies of the old Fusilier pattern at present worn. The new bearskins will be similar to those used by the Grenadier Guards, and 650 will be purchased. Samples were submitted to the meeting from English manufacturers, and one of a very handsome pattern was selected. The busbies now in use, numbering 600, of which 250 are almost new, will be sold.

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July 11th the regular monthly meeting of the members of the sergeants' mess of the Grenadiers was held, and the attendance was most gratifying considering fine weather and the numerous outside attractions. It was decided to hold the annual excursion to St. Catharines, but the precise date will be fixed later on. General regret was expressed at the illness of Staff-Sergt. Dent, who is a great favorite with the mess.

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The last meeting of the Army and Navy Veterans' Association President Muir read a letter from Rev. Canon Bull, president of the Lundy's Lane Historical Society, inviting the members of the association to attend the ceremonies at Lundy's Lane on July 25 in connection with the reinterment of the remains of the soldiers of the Royal Scots and 89th regiments who fell in the battle on July 25, 1824. It was decided to accept the invitation and several hundred veterans and the band will attend if satisfactory transport arrangements can be arranged. The remains were discovered last April. The pallbearers will be chosen from the veterans' association.

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Dr. G. Sterling Ryerson, M.P.P., surgeon of the Royal Grenadiers, secretary of the Association of Medical Officers of Militia, has received a communication from England saying that at a meeting of the Chapter General of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England he had been selected an honorary associate, and that his selection had received the sanction of the Queen, the sovereign head and patron. This is an ancient chivalrous or-