

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

A Weekly Journal devoted to the Interests of the Active Force of the Dominion.

Sixth Year.
VOL. V, No. 3.

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, 7th AUGUST, 1890.

\$1.50 per annum in advance
Single Copies Five Cents.

SEND YOUR RENEWAL SUBSCRIPTION.

Look at the date on the address label affixed to the wrapper of your paper. It shows when the period for which you have paid expired, or will expire. If the date is earlier than 7th August, 1890, you are in arrear. Be kind enough to send the money immediately, without waiting to be billed. Remit by P. O. Order (payable to J. D. Taylor) or Registered Letter. Address

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE, P. O. Box 316, Ottawa, Ont.

CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

THE RIFLE.
The Western District Association.
Quebec and Ontario programmes.
Creedmoor prospects.
Prize scores of M.G.A. and Q.O.R.
REGIMENTAL AND OTHER NEWS.
A budget from the military centres.

THE MILITARY RIFLE LEAGUE.
Team totals of the sixth match.
Detailed scores of the fifth.
CORRESPONDENCE.
Range experiences in the West.—*Buckshot.*

The Rifle.

As will be noticed from the advertisement appearing in this issue, the Western District Rifle Association will hold their fifteenth annual prize meeting at the Cove range, London, Ont., on the 14th and 15th August. These matches are open to all residents of No. 1 Military District. The corps in the vicinity of London have been hampered by the want of a proper rifle range, and on that account have not participated in the League shooting; but they expect to enter teams next year. In the meantime there is considerable interest shown in rifle matters, and it is expected that the attendance this year will make the Western District meeting worthy of the Association's old-time record.

THE QUEBEC PROVINCIAL MATCHES.

Since last issue we have received the programmes of the P.Q.R.A. annual prize meeting, to take place at the Cote St. Luc ranges, Montreal, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of next week. As the date is so near it is not necessary to notice the events at greater length than to mention the few new features. An additional prize is offered in the "Military" match, this being a challenge cup presented by Lt.-Col. Houghton, D.A.G., to be held for a year by the officer commanding the corps whose team makes the highest aggregate in the two series, skirmishing and volley firing. In connection with the newly acquired Carslake challenge trophy, a description of which we published some time ago, there are provided a series of team and individual cash prizes, to be competed for at 200 (standing) 500 and 600 yards, with the Snider, and in uniform. There are five team prizes, ranging from \$30 to \$10, to be awarded for the aggregate scores of ten members of any corps in the Dominion. There are thirty-five individual prizes, amounting to \$218. This match supersedes the Merchants', seven shots at 600 yards. A Revolver Match is introduced, with the targets and scoring of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Revolver Association. Six prizes are offered, the first being a Webley revolver (value \$35) presented by Major Bond, and the others in cash from \$5 to \$1.

THE ONTARIO RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The programme of the O.R.A. matches to be held at Toronto on the 25th August and following days is almost identical with that of last year. One variation is that prizes in cash, instead of in kind, are offered in the extra series matches, of which there are four, one for each rifle at 500 and 600 yards respectively. In each of the 500 yards matches there are twenty-five prizes, amounting to \$127; and in the 600 yards matches nineteen, amounting to \$101. In the Gibson the prize list in the second stage (800 and 900 yards) is extended to twelve prizes and \$125, in place of seven prizes and \$100 as formerly; and this stage is now made open to the fifty highest scorers in the first, in place of the twenty-five. The worthy President, Mr. Wm. Mulock, M.P., receives the deserved compliment of having the Aggregate match named after him. An important new departure, which is sure to be heard of with general satisfaction, is that in all team competitions (except, seemingly, the skirmishing and volley firing) entries are not to be restricted to one team from each organization. The team matches are: Battalion nursery, six members, four prizes; Association, five members, five prizes; Battalion open, eight

members, five prizes; Company, five members, four prizes; Gzowski (skirmishing and volley firing), six members, five prizes each series.

CREEDMOOR.

Receipt of the Creedmoor programmes, the details of which so far as they affect the events open to Canadians we were enabled to give several weeks ago, has revived interest in Major Hood's project of taking a Canadian team there to compete the week following the Dominion matches at Ottawa. Interest centres in the Hilton trophy match, intended to be a great international contest for teams of twelve, but in which the competition has been confined almost exclusively to teams from a few of the States of the Union, or of the various branches of the U.S. Army. The conditions being 200, 500 and 600 yards, seven shots standing at 200, and any position at other ranges, and the use of any military rifle being permissible, our Martini shots have a great chance to distinguish themselves, and it is to be hoped that a good team will be got together to make the contemplated trip. The trophy has for four years in succession been captured by the Massachusetts riflemen, whose famous team achieved such success in England last year, but these formidable competitors seem to be stepping out, as the following from *Shooting and Fishing* indicates:—

"It will be seen by a letter from Col. H. T. Rockwell, Inspector-General of Rifle Practice of Massachusetts, to Capt. John S. Shepherd, Secretary of the National Rifle Association of America, printed in this issue, that Massachusetts will not be represented by a military team at Creedmoor this year. For a number of years Massachusetts has sent a team of riflemen from her volunteers to contest in interstate competitions. Pennsylvania has also been represented, and sometimes the Army, and intermittingly Connecticut. Other States some years ago ceased to contest with military teams, except New York, which, being at home on this range, was always represented. There is nothing in Col. Rockwell's letter to indicate that dissatisfaction has existed among visiting riflemen, but it is believed that the unsatisfactory mode of conducting the meetings for the past few years has much to do in making the radical changes in the system of rifle practice in Massachusetts, which we understand means regimental matches, and later a State competition between regimental teams. It is reported, although not officially, that Pennsylvania will not send a team to Creedmoor this year, and there is a dubious outlook for the eighteenth annual meeting.

"Col. Rockwell has given due credit to New York for the lead it took in encouraging the instruction of rifle practice among the volunteers, and the successful continuance of a good system, but makes a very significant statement in the following words, 'but the influence of Creedmoor, which was intended to be, and might have been, practically national in its scope, has seriously waned, if it has not entirely vanished.'

"In the opinion of many riflemen, matches at the Creedmoor meeting for which members of the National Guard of New York alone were eligible, were too numerous, and the arrangement of contests has been more to accommodate the home than visiting riflemen. As a result dissatisfaction has arisen and intensified until few riflemen from abroad care to participate in the annual matches at Creedmoor.

"It is hoped that the absence of State teams from Creedmoor this year will bring about a change long desired, which is, to make this organization national in its truest sense. It is hoped suggestions from riflemen outside of the State will be received, and matches so arranged as to bring riflemen from many sections. An entire elimination of any matches to which guardsmen from any one State are eligible is, we think, desirable."

Of the proposed Canadian visit the *New York Times* says: "The Creedmoor meeting this year will derive a greatly increased interest from the presence of a full Canadian team, under the charge of Capt. Hood. An international competition has always proved a popular attraction at the fall prize meeting of the National Rifle Association, but, unfortunately, such a competition has not been secured for it during many years. The prospects of renewing the old contest between British and American riflemen at Creedmoor are also rather faint, and indeed the prizes offered on this side of the water are too small to attract marksmen accustomed to the liberal rewards of Wimbledon, or rather, as we must now say, of Bisley. The time and cost of the ocean voyage, and the subsequent days required for practice, are items of importance, coming so soon after the annual meeting at the Bisley range. But our friends across the border are near at hand, and they have plenty of skilful riflemen. Their team, which has been competing as usual at the July meeting in England, will soon have returned, and that, or a portion of it, would be available for Creedmoor. It contains plenty of good shots, although it did not succeed this year in retaining the Kolapore Cup, which it won last year. At any rate, the Canadians who come will no doubt prove worthy com-