

# Regimental Notes

## TORONTO.

The second annual moonlight excursion of "H" Co., 48th Highlanders, was held on Friday evening the 21st July, and was a decided success. There was ample room set apart and a long programme laid out for the dancing, which added not a little to the enjoyment of the evening.

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The 48th Highlanders have decided to hold their first regimental sports on the 19th Aug. A large and able committee is actively engaged and weather permitting nothing is being left undone to outline the very successful sports held by the Queen's Own in 1891. I hope to be able to give the full list of events in the next issue, together with the value of the prizes which, I am informed, are valuable and well worth competition. Tent pitching, open to teams from the different regiments, will, I believe, be one of the most interesting events.

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The prospects for a very successful meeting of O. R. A. are exceedingly bright and owing to no meeting being held last year a substantial increase should be shown in the prize list. Strictures have appeared in an eastern paper regarding the action of the authorities in still clinging to the old Snider, finding fault with their want of enterprise, etc. These I do not think will be borne out when the last day of the meet arrives and the decision to wait for another year before discontinuing the use even of the obsolete weapon will no doubt prove to be the wisest the Council could adopt. The ranges barring the erection of the long range targets are most complete, and with one or two exceptions will stand a close inspection. The drawbacks at present for practise, but which are easily remedied, are the utterly inadequate number of flags for noticing the direction of the wind and efficient markers. At present three or four flags are almost useless for a range, the magnitude of the Lake Shore ranges and the plan of using civilian, or a great portion of civilian markers is not conducive to rapid or efficient scoring. The remedy for these is, however, an easy matter. The only trouble that is likely to cause great dissatisfaction will be the means of squadding. The task before the committee is recognised on all sides as a most difficult one, as it will be impossible to place more than forty-two competitors at one time on any one range, and in a two or three range match, a change in the weather will simply be one of the many chances of shooting that all competitors have to contend with at some period of their experiences.

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It seems that at last the long expected is about to happen and that ere the close of another month the Canadian Dragoons from Quebec will be fairly well settled in their new quarters in Toronto. The presence of this crack corps will make quite

a welcome addition to the fast increasing force of this city and the stimulus to the mounted force of this and surrounding districts will undoubtedly be most marked.

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The trip from Hamilton to Niagara camp, which a section of the Q. O. R. bicycle riders recently made, should be the means of bringing this recognized feature of the service into some prominence in Canada. Taking into consideration the short notice that the riders received and the lack of training for long distance riding that most of them had, splendid time was made, and while the roads in some places were terribly rough not a friction nor an accident of any kind occurred to the machines, all of which were pneumatic tired. The Q. O. have over fifty riding members and if the Government could be induced to make an experiment, a sufficient number could be equipped at a very small outlay. And the idea of using them not as a fighting strength, I have no faith in that idea, but as a splendid means of despatch bearing or even conveying quickly a small force of reinforcements from one point to another, might be found exceedingly serviceable. It is altogether likely that when the Q. O. R. next fall take part in the autumn manoeuvres, they will, as they had intended to do last year, depend almost entirely on the bicyclists as a means of keeping up the communications for their brigade.

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Judging from latest intelligence, another regiment is altogether likely to make its appearance in Toronto and be known as the St. George Rifles. The idea has originated with the Sons of England and while not restricted to them alone will be largely made up of their members or of English born residents of the city. They confidently expect a grant from the Government similar to that given the 48th, and seeing that the intention seems to be to place the money voted to the militia, where it will do the most good, they should not reckon in vain. The idea has taken surprisingly well and although there are over 1,500 men divided among the three existing regiments, the proposed St. George Rifles have close on 250 men available, sufficient at all events to be recognized. Their idea as to uniform is the gray with tan leggings, something like the uniform worn by the London Scottish. Many of those already enrolled have put in service as officers and non-coms. in the old country and are once more keen to put in a further period of service with the colors. There are some who do not favor the organizing of a distinctive regiment like this, and there are others who say that if this goes through the organizing of a "Royal Irish" is but a question of time. The only drawback that I can see is the lack of accommodations for any more regiments in the way of a drill hall, and unless they build their own, I think that they will be seriously hampered, as no one expects, once they see the present much delayed one completed that any further sums will be given to Toronto for a generation or so. As to the question of expense to the Gov-

ernment taking into consideration, the small amount that they have to spend on Toronto regiments in contrast with the excellence of the showing they make, this is not likely to amount to much, as at present the majority of the men go to a great deal more expense than their annual pay could cover.

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The drill hall is slowly but surely nearing completion. At the hour of writing two of the spans for the roof are already across and everyone is sanguine of seeing the city regiments able to march in and take possession by the close of the fall drill.

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A very complete and readable history of the Queen's Own from the date of formation is appearing in the Saturday editions of The Telegram. It is exceedingly well written and reflects good credit on the writer, the work when completed being one that should be printed and placed in the book of standing orders when they are next compiled.

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At a meeting of the Sergeants' Mess of the Queen's Own Rifles, held on the 24th July, Staff Sergt. Pearson, Sergts. Gray, Burns, Allum and Thompson; Col. Sgts. Cunningham and Barr, were appointed a committee to assist in carrying out the proposed fancy fair and military reunion of the members and ex-members of the regiment to be held this fall. The project which had been discussed by the officers, was outlined by Captain McGee and Lieut. Wyatt, and received with great enthusiasm.

## MONTREAL.

The twenty-third annual match of the Victoria Rifles took place on Saturday July 15th at Cote St. Luc ranges. The following is a summary of the shooting:

Maiden Stakes—

Range 200 yards; possible 35. Open to all members who have never won first or second prize in maiden stakes or any except spoons in battalion or open matches:—

|                            | Score. |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Pte. Jamieson, 6 Co        | 28     |
| Pte. T. F. Smith, 5 Co     | 28     |
| Pte. Gascoigne, 3 Co       | 28     |
| Corp. McLennan, 1 Co       | 24     |
| Pte. R. Forman, 5 Co       | 23     |
| Pte. W. G. P. Gordon, 3 Co | 22     |
| Association Match.—        |        |

|                             | 200  | 400  | 500  |     |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|-----|
|                             | yds. | yds. | yds. | Tl. |
| Corp. McCarchie, 4 Co.      | 29   | 32   | 35   | 96  |
| Major E. B. Busted          | 28   | 33   | 32   | 93  |
| Sergt. Binmore, 3 Co.       | 32   | 33   | 27   | 92  |
| Lieut. McAdam, 6 Co         | 30   | 31   | 30   | 91  |
| Lieut. Brown, 3 Co          | 30   | 31   | 30   | 91  |
| Sergt. Lanigan, 1 Co.       | 25   | 32   | 31   | 88  |
| Sergt. Clark, 5 Co.         | 25   | 34   | 29   | 88  |
| Lieut. Wilson, 5 Co.        | 29   | 32   | 24   | 85  |
| Staff-Sergt. Belmont, 1 Co. | 25   | 34   | 25   | 84  |
| Pte. Jamieson, 6 Co.        | 26   | 29   | 27   | 82  |
| Col.-Sgt. Gascoigne, 3 Co   | 24   | 32   | 25   | 81  |
| Pte. Wallace, Co. 6         | 29   | 27   | 25   | 81  |

On 81 counted out. Thirty-nine entries. Queen's Own Challenge Cup.

To be competed for by teams of six men