

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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

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Our advocacy of a general efficiency competition for the infantry has elicited a hearty letter of endorsement—printed elsewhere in the issue—from Captain C. Greville Harston, of the 10th Royal Grenadiers, Toronto. From officers of several other regiments we have heard expressions of approval of the idea, but all seem alike bashful about taking the initiative in establishing the competition. We invite correspondence from all those who may have opinions or advice to offer on the subject. Such an interchange of views would facilitate the preparation of a generally acceptable scheme.

More than once in the past we have had occasion to quote the 21st Essex Fusiliers as a sample of a truly live rural corps, who could put to the blush many a city battalion more advantageously situated. The live manner in which the affairs of the 21st are looked after, is instanced by the circular notice just issued by the officer commanding, summoning his fellow officers to the annual meeting, to be held at Windsor on the 29th inst. Officers are requested to be present in full dress uniform. This is the business to be disposed of:—1, Reception of band and regimental committees' reports; 2, the appointing of band, regimental and mess committees for 1890-91; 3, clothing and articles of equipment for the regiment and band; 4, course of squad and company drill for the coming season, preparatory to going to camp, and the best plan to induce the constant attendance of n.c.o. and men; 5, officers' studies and discipline; 6, the formation of a League rifle team for 1890-91; 7, re-organization of rifle association; 8, the officers are all especially requested to assemble in Windsor on the day of meeting in time to proceed to Sandwich to wait on the County Council at 10.30 a.m., to solicit a grant in aid of equipment, etc. Other friends of the regiment will accompany the delegation. If Col. Wilkinson does not keep the 21st up to the very highest possible point of efficiency, it certainly will not be for any lack of well-directed endeavour on his part.

For an officer to have served half a lifetime in a corps, and maintain such a degree of popularity as to call for a complimentary banquet in his honour, must be a source of no little gratification to the individual.

Such an honour has been done Lieut.-Col. T. Bog, commanding the 16th Prince Edward Battalion of Infantry, whose officers entertained him at Picton, Ont., last week. A detailed account of the affair appears in our regimental news columns. Col. Bog organized the first company of the 16th Battalion in 1862.

What They Say of Us.

A few weeks ago we published a long list of complimentary notices received from our friends in all parts of the country. They came entirely unsolicited, mainly in letters enclosing renewal subscriptions, and were a source of no little gratification to the publisher, who has found great difficulty in cultivating the field open for a military publication in this country. Those notices were but samples of what we constantly receive, and since their publication these have come to hand:

Lieut.-Colonel, Chatham, N.B.—"The militia force is indebted to your spicy journal for many interesting items, as well as a fund of useful information upon subjects connected with the various branches of the service; and is deserving of a very generous support."

Lieutenant, St. John, N.B.—"I find in it very useful information, and wish you every success with your paper."

Lieutenant, Hamilton, Ont.—"I am very glad to see that you have received so many letters of encouragement from all over the country. I have taken the GAZETTE for over two years now and always look for it eagerly. I have friends and acquaintances all over the country, and if it were not for your paper I would probably never hear of their movements. Your records of shooting competitions, both Infantry and Artillery, I take a great interest in."

Staff-Sergeant, London, Ont.—"I wish you every success with your publication, which is very valuable to the militia generally. I hope they will recognize its worth and learn to appreciate it as a medium of military information."

Captain, London, Ont.—"I must congratulate you on the manner in which you appear to have surmounted difficulties which must at times often have appeared insurmountable."

Captain, Toronto.—"Your energy and pluck deserve generous recognition on the part of the militia. It is in their own interest to support the GAZETTE. Every man in the force ought to read it."

Captain, Quebec.—"I will take this opportunity of telling you how useful I found the GAZETTE in the past, both for reference and for general information on military matters. I wish you every success in the future."

Sergeant-Major, Belleville.—"Enclosed find amount of a year's subscription, and please send the paper from the beginning of the year, as I desire to have the volume bound. I regret exceedingly that I did not long ago become a subscriber to your interesting and valuable journal, but hope to be permanently on your list for the future."

The published certificates as to the useful purpose the paper serves, we trust will carry weight with those members of the force, and particularly the officers, who are not already subscribers, and induce them to contribute their mite to help it along, for the subscription price is only a mite. No one is very desirable as an officer of the force who cannot afford \$1.50 a year for a military paper; and the officer who can afford and will not pay the trifle we venture to say will be found to belong only because he desires an opportunity of parading in a stylish looking uniform.