

average of that number of points. In the old country, on the other hand, scores of 90 and over are as common as 80's here, and the leader in a match at Queen's ranges has quite frequently only two or three points short of 100 to his credit out of a possible 105. In the first stage of the Queen's this year twenty-eight competitors made 90 and over, the highest being 95, and eighteen had scores of 89 each. The five highest Canadians, who won places in the three hundred to whom the second stage was open, scored as follows: Staff-Sergt. Ogg, 92; Pte. Gillies, 90; Pte. Thomson, 89; Color-Sergt. Mitchell, 86; Sergt. Langstroth, 85. In the Governor-General's match at Rideau range last summer, with a first prize of \$250 dangling before the sixty from whom this year's Wimbledon team were to be chosen, the top scores were 91, 90 and 88 for the three highest. More practice with the Martini is needed before Canada can cope with the mother country with that weapon.

### The Militia Regulations—A Revision and Consolidation.

THE growth during the last twenty years of the business of the various departments of the government has been in many respects remarkable, and comparing the present with the past it is evident that the complicated machinery required for the transaction of that business is rapidly being perfected, and administration thereby made more easy. In no department is this growth more apparent than in the militia, because it is newer than most of the others. Indeed at confederation, only twenty years ago, there was no distinct Dominion system in the sense it now exists, except the authority granted by law to raise corps and train them. We had the traditions of the Imperial regular army and the models the regiments stationed in the country supplied; also the civil departments, which included the commissariat, store, pay, barrack and medical staffs, and the system under which they worked, as an example, but we had no corps except those raised to act as auxiliary with the Imperial troops, and it was convenient that our corps should be governed by the Imperial methods. The Fenian raids of 1866-70 gave cause for greater activity in military matters, and the withdrawal of the Imperial troops from Canada, in the latter year, left the country practically to its own resources for internal administrative purposes in so far at least as the militia was concerned.

It became evident that the models and practical advantages the Imperial troops had supplied must be perpetuated by creating in Canada from Canadian materials somewhat similar devices for the instruction and government of its force, in accordance with the conditions and requirements of the country. In doing so it was apparent that as the country would grow, and the territorial militia be widely scattered, it would be necessary to have an expansive system based on regulations that would operate equally on all, and enable every militiaman to make himself acquainted beforehand with the conditions applicable to him whenever he volunteered or was called on to serve. As a foundation for such a system a military college and many schools of military instruction based on permanent corps have been created, and although these corps have only a strength of 1,000 men, the machinery required for their government and for the college, schools, and active militia, is the same as would suffice for a much larger organization. What has been acquired is in fact a workable system applicable to the piping times of peace, and to such exigencies requiring military aid as may arise in the future. These exigencies of one kind or another have been numerous since confederation. In dealing with them not only has it been shown that a military force is necessary, but the promptitude displayed has demonstrated the excellence of the measures for raising, maintaining and turning out such a force in any portion of the Dominion. Such satisfactory results can only be accomplished by preparation made beforehand. This preparation has entailed undoubted labor, but the regulations resulting from it, and under which the college, schools of military instruction, and active and reserve militia are governed, are models of compactness and effectiveness. They are based on the traditions of the Imperial army and conform to the necessities of the force and the circumstances of Canada.

A revision and consolidation having been made during the present year, the experience gained by the results of the actual service in the North-West Territories in 1885 now form part of existing knowledge handily available for future use. The regulations are not yet as complete as they will require to be when the various branches are expanded to meet requirements of service, but comparing the results obtained with those existing in 1867 there are indications of the growth and development of this useful branch of the public service, in a direction making it more and more able to fulfil the duties required of it in connection with the interior affairs of the country, as well as to aid in its defence should circumstances arise requiring it. But although it is to be hoped the time when such aid may be required is distant, it is satisfactory to know that this provision has been and is being made in the direction of economy and effective administration.

It is to be hoped that a new edition of the Regulations and Orders will be issued at an early date, so that members of the force may have an opportunity of acquainting themselves with the regulations. The last book bears date 1883, but the changes made since then have been so many and radical that the volume is now really of very little use.

### Personal.

Lieut.-Col. Bruce Campbell, of the 84th Batt., St. Hyacinthe, speaks of resigning owing to a disagreement which has arisen between himself and the department concerning the battalion, which it is said is not in the most flourishing condition.

Major-General Middleton, when in Montreal last week, was asked what he thought of the militia, after his tour of inspection. He is reported to have replied: "I am delighted, in fact astonished that with so little encouragement as they receive the volunteers do so well. It is in fact only enthusiasm which keeps them up."

Lieut.-Col. Ouimet, commandant of the Wimbledon team, and Lieut.-Col. Kirkpatrick were amongst the Canadians invited to witness the great naval review at Spithead last week.

Lieut.-Col. Holmes, commandant of "C" Battery R.C.A., British Columbia, visited Ottawa last week on business connected with the organization of the battery. He has since gone on to Montreal and Quebec, but is expected to return shortly.

Lieut. C. F. Winter, of the G.G.F.G., is to have his portrait appear as that of a typical Canadian volunteer, in the *American Magazine* shortly, in connection with an article on the Canadian Militia from the pen of Mr. J. Macdonald Oxley of this city.

Capt. A. P. Sherwood, of No. 1 Co. of the 43rd Batt., who is also Superintendent of Dominion Police, has in the latter capacity gone on a trip to Belgium, having in custody the fugitive embezzler Buzon, whose extradition had been asked and granted.

Sir Adolphe Caron, Minister of Militia, and Major-General Middleton will leave on their contemplated trip to British Columbia as soon as the plans for the fortifications there, in preparation by Col. O'Brien, R.E., arrive from England.

### The Queen and the Army.

THE fifty years of Her Majesty's reign have witnessed not only many stirring incidents connected with the British army, but also vast changes in its constitution and organization. The army as it existed at the Queen's accession was in all material respects the same army that had fought and conquered in the Peninsula and at Waterloo. Indeed it might be said that it remained unchanged until the period of the Crimean war, ever since which time every department of military science has been revolutionised. But if any army ought to be perfect as a military machine, it ought to be that of England, which has been constantly at war. Even in this year of the jubilee it cannot be said that the Temple of Janus is closed, as we are still warring in a desultory fashion with dacoits in Burmah. It is true, and fortunately so, that, with the exception of the war with Russia, this country has been engaged with no European combatant, but it has had many a tough and costly struggle with combatants who were not to be despised. The British army has had its misfortunes, but, thank God, they have been few, and the record of the British army for the last fifty years has been a splendid one. That we emerged victorious from the perils of the Indian mutiny is due as much to the heroism and martial character of the British race as to the gallantry of the British soldier. That the errors which gave rise to it have been amended, and that a better understanding now exists between the Imperial Crown and the subordinate states, the presence of noble Indian princes in the pageant of Tuesday last is a pleasing testi-