

prize it might fittingly be urged that Quebec should have the second, in the shape of the adjutancy. It is not a good principle to be governed too much by geographical considerations in deciding an appointment of this kind, but an effort should be made to secure a really good officer, and if he happens to belong to a province presently deserving a share of the honours, so much the better.

From the report of the annual meeting appearing elsewhere in this issue, it will be seen that the Nova Scotia Rifle Association have determined upon the reintroduction of sighting shots. It will be remembered that a similar step was recommended to the Dominion Rifle Association at the last meeting of competitors. Sighting shots were abolished in Canada because of similar action at Wimbledon, but the National Association this year reintroduced them. The competitors seem to feel that the sighters give the best men a better chance to get to the top, and the argument against them in Canada has been their expense, while the prime cause of their temporary disallowance in England is said to have been the limited target accommodation at Wimbledon, rendering necessary a reduction in the number of shots to be fired.

It will be observed with regret in the same report, that two distinguished members of the Council of the Dominion Association, Sir John Thompson and Hon. C. H. Tupper, have by request been replaced, the pressure of other duties being urged as the reason for retirement. The Association would be the better of having a larger number of prominent public men taking an interest in it, and it is always a matter of regret when any retire. It is true the two Ministers named above are not military men, and therefore may feel the less keenly interested in the Association, but its welfare should be the concern of every citizen of the Dominion, and those who have not time or inclination to join the militia themselves may help the force by assisting the rifle associations, which contribute very largely to give vigour to our military organization.

Correspondence.

[This paper does not necessarily share the views expressed in correspondence published in its columns, the use of which is freely granted to writers on topics of interest to the Militia.]

CAVALRY ASSOCIATIONS.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—I was much pleased to see your editorial suggesting the formation of a Cavalry Association, which is certainly much wanted as we have tarried too long in neglect. I have no other object in view in writing, but to endorse anything that will improve instruction among cavalry leaders. The incomplete instruction and tactical training of many officers in the Canadian Cavalry, together with insufficient exercising, hampers this arm at present, and gives very generally imperfect results as compared with the Artillery and Infantry. The true spirit of cavalry slumbers in the profession, tactics get chilled in peace time into agreeable forms, which triumph over the disagreeable study and work required of the disciples of Mars, and so the whole thing drifts along, and it is not an easy task to wake a nation. Still the success which has attended the formation of a U. S. Cavalry Association among our neighbours and the Quarterly Journal published at Fort Leavenworth by that association is most timely, so that I for one am glad to see this awakening spirit in Canada.

A CAVALRY SOLDIER.

THE MANITOBA RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—In closing our last letter on Rifle Associations we gave it to be understood that we had more information to impart, and no doubt some will think it strange that we have not completed the work. An explanation is necessary, and as there are rumours afloat that "we" have been suppressed, we hasten to clear ourselves. When we entered upon this work it was for a purpose. We have determined that our affairs here must be done right, and think—for two reasons—that the end aimed at will be accomplished after next annual meeting. The reasons are: That we have not been answered. Second,

that those in authority show a disposition to amend matters. In speaking to these points it must be said that having the controversy all on one side is monotonous. No matter how righteous the cause, one's pity is ever evoked for the weak, and cowardice is rampant when the fallen continue to receive punishment. Far from being of the blood-thirsty class we hail with pleasure the promise of reformation. We shall be ready as the readiest to assist in placing our shooting affairs in a practical and business-like condition. For the present, therefore, we do not intend enlarging on these topics, but trust to be able to send occasional items of general interest during the winter. In closing permit us to say that we do not court silence, that our pen will always be found ready in the cause espoused, but for the present the game is hardly worth more powder, certainly not both powder and

BUCKSHOT.

AN EXTRA AIDE FOR THE G.O.C.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—It may perhaps be timely, now that we are about to welcome a new General, to point out, that the whole service would be benefitted by having an intelligent officer of the Permanent Corps attached to his personal staff, under whatever name it might seem appropriate to term it. An officer who would fulfil the duties of Military Secretary to the G. O. C., and who knows not only the wants but the shortcomings of the militia, could not be otherwise than useful to the whole H. Q. staff; and such an appointment would I think be recognized as a compliment to Canada. I do not of course intend to suggest that the A.D.C. of the Imperial Service should be superseded, but an officer of the Permanent Corps in addition could be seconded for this duty at *no extra expense* to the country.

NAP.

The Rifle.

On Thanksgiving Day a match was fired between B Co., 7th Fusiliers, London, and B Co., of the Infantry School corps, St. John's, Que., resulting in a win for London by 15 points—331 to 316. The scores of B Co., Fusiliers, were as follows:—

	200	400	500	T'l.
Capt. Hayes.....	23	20	21	64
Pte. T. Hiscott.....	17	21	23	61
Pte. W. Hiscott.....	21	20	20	61
Pte. Ross.....	20	22	21	63
Corp. Price.....	13	17	12	42
Corp. Allen.....	11	18	11	40
Total.....				331

NOVA SCOTIA RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Nova Scotia Provincial Rifle Association was held on the 4th inst. A large number of the shooting men of Halifax and vicinity were present. A resolution was passed to allow two sighting shots at each range for which a charge of ten cents each is to be made. It was decided to allow the captain of the Ottawa team to select the eight men who are to compose the team to fire for the Merchants' Cup, instead of taking the eight highest in the aggregate, as at present. A motion to increase the entrance fee from two to three dollars was voted down. It was decided to appoint a surgeon for the range, and Dr. Jacques was elected to the position. The desirability of obtaining passes for the country members attending the annual shooting was strongly urged so as to place them on the same footing as the members of the city corps. Sir John Thompson and Hon. C. H. Tupper having expressed their wish to be relieved as representatives of the province at the Dominion association, as their parliamentary duties prevented them from giving it the attention they wished, the meeting being held during the session of parliament, the association elected T. E. Kenny, M. P., J. B. Mills, M. P., and Lieut.-Col. C. J. Macdonald as representatives in their places. The following compose the council for the ensuing year:—Lt.-Col. Murray, Lt.-Col. Curren, H. G. A.; Lt.-Col. Walsh, 63rd; Major Garrison, H. G. A.; Major Barnhill, 78th; Major Weston, 66th; Capt. Harris, H. G. A.; Capt. Adams, H. G. A.; Capt. Crane, 63rd; Capt. Cunningham, 63rd; Lieut. Dixon, 63rd; Lieut. Stevens, 66th; Sergt. Lockhart, 63rd; Sergt. Spencer, H. G. A.; Sergt. Gibson, 66th.

The council in their annual report refer with gratification to the fact that owing largely to the system of affiliation adopted at the last annual meeting, there was an increase of thirty-three per cent. in the attendance at the prize meeting. Under that system affiliated membership was granted to fifteen of any regiment who had never won a prize at any meeting of the association, on payment of \$10. Two competitions were set apart for the affiliated and nursery members, with prizes to the value of \$166.