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NEWS OF THE SERVICE.

Our readers are respectfully requested to contribute promptly to this department all items of Military News affecting their own corps, districts or friends, coming under their notice. Unless we are assisted in this way we cannot make this department as complete as we would desire. Remember that all the doings of every corps are of general interest throughout the entire militia force. You can mail a large package of manuscript, in an unsealed envelope, for one cent. At any rate, forward copies of your local papers with all references to your corps and your comrades. Address,

EDITOR CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE,
P.O. Box 2179, Montreal, Que.

AT HEADQUARTERS.

OTTAWA, April 4.—Spring drills have commenced. The Guards began on the 23rd., and have three recruit classes at work four nights a week.

The Field Battery commenced on the 25th., and the 43rd began on the 31st. The latter regiment will be commanded by Major Sherwood, owing to Col. Wright's absence in British Columbia.

Long service medals have been decided as not applicable to the Canadian Militia, owing to the technical reading of the Militia Act, under which our force is constituted, the late G.O.C. contending we were not volunteers, but militia, to whom the medals do not apply in England. This matter, however, only requires to be taken up with some little enthusiasm, and if the Canadian Militia do not come within the Royal Warrant, why should not special medals be issued for long service in Canada?

We hear to-day that the Auditor-General has withdrawn his opposition to Capt. Sutherland's resignation. This was done through Col. Wright's good services. We trust, therefore, that such an excellent officer as Capt. Sutherland will retain his commission and serve his country for years to come.

General and Mrs. Gascoigne intend spending Easter at Niagara, and early in May the G.O.C. intends inspecting the permanent schools at Kingston, Montreal and Toronto. On the Queen's Birthday he will be at Montreal, and we may add that when at that city last week he was exceedingly pleased with the work going on at the temporary military

school under Capt. McDougal, of St. Johns, and two sergeant instructors.

An Ottawa paper last week made reference to the matter of the new companies for the 43rd. Col. Wright and Major Sherwood regret that such remarks had been published, and they are quite sure that the Guards are in no way desirous of blocking this proposal. However, the matter has been settled by the Minister of Militia, and the 43rd will get their two new companies. This will make them a six company battalion, with a total strength of 278 officers and men.

Major Donaldson, secretary of the Dominion Artillery Association, has issued a circular calling an extraordinary meeting of council at Montreal on Wednesday, April 8th, for the purpose of sending a team to the artillery meeting at Shoeburyness. The expenses will amount to about \$3,700. Of this amount the association will contribute \$2,000, and it is proposed that each unit sending a representative should contribute \$75 towards the general expenses. The Dominion Artillery Association have visited England and competed with British volunteers at Shoeburyness in the years 1881, 1883 and 1886, and were commanded by Lieut.-Cols. W. R. Oswald, Macdonald and Armstrong, respectively. Owing to the difficulty of procuring funds the association were unable to continue sending teams. The magnificent team of 1886, commanded by Col. Armstrong, will never be forgotten, and their record is sufficient to make every Canadian proud of such soldiers. We cannot do better than extract the few words relating to their prowess from The Volunteer Gazette of that date, which are as follows:

"The meeting has been marked by two incidents of special interest—the presence of Col. Armstrong's splendid Canadian team and the attendance of Lord Wolseley at the prize distribution. The appearance of the Canadians ought to put our men on their mettle. We are quite aware that the former are picked men, and are picked, moreover, in a way which it would never be possible for us to pick a team to go to Canada or any other colony. But even allowing for this we must say that we have seldom seen such a body of soldiers as the Canadian Artillerymen who have just left Shoeburyness. Nobody, we think, who saw those clean-limbed giants perform the 'shift' for the Governor-General's cup will ever forget the sight. Their march

past later in the day in full panoply was equally good in a different way. They will return home laden with the spoils of their recent campaign. They have recovered the Montreal cup, they have taken away the Londonderry cup from the best team we could bring against them, and they have refused even to let their own Governor-General's cup for excellence in repository work remain with us. Moreover, they have won a first prize for shell firing and a certificate for the ordinary repository competition, so that there will be rejoicing, fully justified, in Canada."

After reading this it is necessary that this association should send another team this year to Shoeburyness, and we are quite sure that whatever they do will be for the glory and credit of this Dominion.

We have reasons to believe that it has been definitely decided that Col. Aylmer will be appointed Adjutant-General in the place of Col. Powell. He is generally considered here the right man in the right place.

General Montgomery Moore leaves for England in April, and will not return before the beginning of July.

There is some talk of Capt. Bate, of the Guards, going to England to take the promotion examinations with the regulars. A number of other officers are to be sent over this year to take this course.

Major Sherwood, of the 43rd, won the final rink match, beating Mr. Haycock's team, and was only beaten by Mr. Waldo after one of the best games seen this winter on the Rideau rinks for the final singles.

Major Roy is looked upon favorably as the successor of Col. Aylmer as D. A. G., Military District No. 4, when the latter succeeds Col. Powell as Adjutant-General. He will be sent to England to take a course to qualify for the command.

The post of A. A. G. was only a temporary one made in 1893 on account of Col. Powell's age, and will not be filled when a new A. G. is appointed.

The G.F.G. mustered Monday night and totalled, not counting recruits, 156, a larger muster than on any previous occasion. Col. Hodgins was in command. He put the regiment through battalion movements and manual and firing exercises. At the finish Col. Hodgins said a few words, expressing his delight at seeing so many there, and hoped