

### Regimental and Other News.

A team of the Ottawa Amateur Athletic Club went to Montreal on Saturday last to have a return match with the Vics, and were for the second time defeated, this time handsomely.

Noticing the departure of Capt. Wise, who sails from New York this week to rejoin his regiment, the Ottawa *Citizen* says: "When Colonel Middleton, Commandant of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, now Lieut.-General Sir Fred. Middleton, was appointed to the command of the Militia of Canada, he selected for his Aide-de-Camp Lieut. Wise, of the Cameronian Regiment, a young Canadian officer, one of the first class of graduates of the Royal Military College, Kingston. The appointment was received with general satisfaction, and the fact that General Middleton had made his selection from the Canadians serving in the army was favorably commented upon. Lieut. Wise upon his appointment received the rank of Captain in the Militia while in Canada, and now that his term of service has expired he is about to rejoin his regiment, which is at present in India. Captain Wise entered the army in 1880, after graduating with honours from the Royal Military College, Kingston. So far his military experience has been confined to England, Malta and Gibraltar. He accompanied General Middleton to the North-West in 1885 at the time of the outbreak of the rebellion, and there distinguished himself while serving on the General's staff as aide-de-camp. He had his horse shot under him and was wounded in the foot, from which casualty he rapidly recovered. In a few weeks he will be on his way from England to India. As an "Ottawa boy" we feel interested in his success in the profession of arms, and as a Canadian we feel confident that his military career will be such as will do credit to the country."

#### THE DUFFERIN RIFLES.

"D" Co., Dufferin Rifles (Capt. McGlashan), held their 14th annual supper on Wednesday the 11th inst. "D" Co is noted for its entertainments of this kind, and the one on the 11th was no exception to the rule, and reflected great credit on the committee entrusted with the management. A new departure was made this year in having the invitations issued by the non-commissioned officers and men alone, the officers being present as guests. Amongst the guests were Lieut.-Col. Jones, Major Rothwell, Surgeon Harris and Capt. Wilkes (Adjt.), and Capt. Tuck (37th Batt.), also Mayor Huyd and Ald. Bowlby, Heath and Read. After full justice had been done to the substantials, the cloth was removed and the chairman, Col.-Sergt. Moon, proposed the usual loyal toasts. Until nearly two o'clock toast, song and speech followed each other in rapid succession, until Auld Lang Syne, followed by the National Anthem closed an evening long to be remembered in the annals of "D" Co.

#### SKILL AT ARMS.

At Kingston, on the 10th inst, Sergt.-Major Morgans competed with and defeated Prof. Reid, who lays title to the Canadian championship in skill at arms. The contest took place in the roller rink, in the presence of a large assemblage. The military and professional men were out in numbers, Major-Gen. Cameron, Lt.-Col. Smith, Lt.-Col. Cotton, and, in fact, all the officers of the artillery and infantry regiments were eager witnesses of the contest. Every young man of sporting proclivities, both in the Royal Military College and in the city, crowded the benches. The arena was ample and was kept clear, so that the utmost fair play could be given. G. E. Cooper acted as second for the Torontonian, and Quartermaster McCarthy, late of the Royal Horse Artillery, filled the same position for Morgans. By mutual consent, Major Drury of "A" Battery, was made referee. During the evening, and between the various appearances of the chief competitors, local men gave exhibitions of club swinging, sword feats, boxing, and quarter staff attack. Prof. Reid and Morgans were received with cheers as they advanced to the centre and began the first contest, foils v. foils. There were some fine parries and *ripistes* indulged in, but in attacking Prof. Reid showed himself an adept, and speedily ran up the five points which constituted him the winner. Morgans made three. In one bout Morgans disarmed Reid. "That was the first time I was ever disarmed with the foils in my life," said Prof. Reid afterwards. Prof. Reid made two points by a rush just previous to the conclusion of the combat. It was admitted that he showed more science than Morgans, who depended more on his strength. The second combat was sword v. sword, and here again Reid showed to fine advantage. By his skilful and forceful application of the manoeuvre known technically as the beat over the blade, he disarmed Morgans twice, and was soon announced the winner by five points to two. There was considerable applause at the way Reid did his work. But afterwards the science of Prof. Reid was discounted, for in the after contest agility and strength were the mainstays for making points. Morgans in the third performance carried a sword, while Reid wielded a bayonet. This was a lively contest, but Morgans, by his cat-like springs and his

clever guarding, made it lonely for his competitor. Five points were secured by Morgans, chiefly by grasping Reid's bayonet in his left and cutting with his right. Reid retired without making a point. The fourth contest was bayonet v. bayonet. Reid by fair work made two points, but he had not the clear eye of Morgans, whose thrusts were timely and vigorous. Amid great cheering Morgans made his fifth point by landing Reid on his back. He caught his adversary fair on the breast, and the throw was one that almost took the Professor's breath away. It was impossible for the contest between Prof. Reid on horseback with the sword, against Morgans on foot with the bayonet, to occur. Prof. Reid had tried to secure an animal, but his trials were futile. No horse could stand on the slippery floor. In lieu of this it was finally arranged that Morgans should meet Reid with a bayonet, the other to flourish a sword. In this contest Prof. Reid found himself unable to cope with Morgans, whose bayonet found his breast in rapid succession. The countering was good, but Morgans forced the fight with great energy. Two points were secured by Morgans, and Major Drury announced him as the victor of the match by seventeen points to twelve. Had Prof. Reid won this contest he could not have beaten Morgans in the maximum number of marks. As a final exhibition, the contest was continued until one point more was secured, and this Morgans readily took. There was cheering for Morgans, who, it is now supposed, will claim the championship of Canada. The whole affair was characterized by the utmost good nature. Prof. Reid admitted his defeat. He still maintains his supremacy as a fencer and swordsman. Both can rest on their laurels in what they demonstrated were their specialties.

### 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.

#### LONG SERVICE REWARDS.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—Kindly permit me to ask through your columns some of our military Members of Parliament or our esteemed Minister if the Government have any intentions of carrying out the suggestions made by Gen. Luard while in command of the forces here. With regard to service badges, as near as I can recollect, what he recommended was as follows: for three years service, one bar; six years, two bars; nine years, three bars; twelve years a medal. Now as one who has served twelve years and in one company and in one regiment, and who has served on every occasion with the regiment during that time, and not without considerable loss, I think it would be an act that would be very much appreciated by members who have served for that time, and would be an inducement for them to remain in longer, and would also be something to show that they had served their country for that time. I would like to hear the views of some other members.

NORTH-WEST.

Toronto, 16th December, 1889.

New magazine rifles and 200 rounds of black peller ammunition per man are to be issued to the infantry battalions of the Aldershot division, the first issue taking place on the 16th inst. In anticipation of the re-armament all the infantry armourers have been sent to Enfield to receive practical instructions in the parts of the rifle and its magazine attachment, and early in the new year special manoeuvres will be held to thoroughly test the qualities of the weapon in the field, and as nearly as possible under active service conditions.

The United States having been roused to the knowledge that it has a long coast line dotted with rich cities to defend, is taking vigorous action to provide itself with a respectable fleet. Thirty-one modern cruisers have already been built, or are ordered. The Secretary to the Navy now recommends the construction of twenty battle-ships, and the same number of coast defence vessels carrying the thickest armour and the most powerful guns. These vessels, he states, will take from twelve to fifteen years to complete, and he urges that eight armoured battle-ships be authorised at the coming Session of Congress. As so many cruisers have been already built or authorised, he recommends that no more of this type be ordered until the battle-ships and coast defenders are rearing completion. The Secretary specially condemns any plan of construction that does not provide double bottoms. He deprecates any large increase in the number of gun-boats, which, he says, add nothing to the real strength of the naval force. The Secretary calls special attention to the lack of torpedo-boats, and recommends that Congress authorise the construction of at least five such boats of the first class. The vote asked for the American Navy next year amounts in the aggregate to \$25,599,253.