

The Canadian Militia Gazette

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NOTE AND COMMENT.

AN announcement worthy of more than passing note was made at the annual gathering of the Royal Military College Club, reported elsewhere in this issue. We refer to the application from the British East Africa Company for graduates of the College, to enter their service in Africa. The Marquis of Lorne, a warm friend of the Dominion and its institutions, is intimately connected with the management of the Company, and to his interest is no doubt due the compliment paid to the College by this application. We understand that some graduates have already tendered their services, and no doubt others will be heard from, as the opportunity seems a favourable one for the profitable exercise of their professional skill as engineers and surveyors, with a spice of adventure added. We believe the Company stipulate for a three years engagement; offering a salary of 335, 390 and 450 rupees per month respectively for each of the three years, with a bonus of 150 rupees and an increase of 50 rupees per month in salary upon passing an examination in the Swahali language and approval of qualifications for the service. The company pay the expense of a first-class passage from Canada to Mombaza and return, upon termination of service, as well as travelling expenses while in their employ.

To the Royal Military College Club we feel greatly indebted for their kind action in adopting this as their official paper, and in return for the recognition and endorsement thus given we hope to be able to render them useful service. With the co-operation of the graduates, an endeavour will be made to secure regular communications from all those who, by reason of the services in which they are engaged, some in the most remote quarters, have become of special interest not only to their old friends of the College but to the numerous body of admirers who know them only by their worthily won reputations.

IN the line of the suggestion contained in last issue, we are happy to learn that there are good prospects of a great military celebration at Ottawa this year, the officers of the Governor General's Foot Guards having taken the matter in hand. Amongst the corps invited to participate and not unlikely to accept, are, we believe, the 13th Battalion of

Hamilton, the 57th Peterborough Rangers and the 5th Royal Scots of Montreal; and when others are heard from no doubt the list of likely visitors will be largely swelled. Whether or not anything is done in the meantime to give shape to the larger project of an annual celebration under Dominion auspices, the gathering of a considerable number of outside officers together at Ottawa will afford a good opportunity for discussion of the project.

CREEDMOOR may see a Canadian team compete for the Hilton Trophy this year, even though the great meeting there is fixed for the same week as our D. R. A. matches. The Trophy is usually contested for on Saturday, and as our meeting can be brought to a close Thursday evening there would be just time for a team picked at Ottawa to reach Creedmoor. Such a team would be at the disadvantage of shooting on a strange range immediately after a long rail journey, but the experiment would be worth trying for one year at least. An exchange of visits like this would do much to foster the international good feeling which fortunately already exists. To read some of the fire-eating newspapers one would almost fancy it dangerous to allow the fighting men of the two countries to come together; but we are convinced that the sentiment of the great mass of the people of the United States is in harmony with the motto of the Canadian militia—"Defence, not Defiance," and that the better acquainted the two peoples become the less danger there will be of hostile interference with each other's affairs.

QUARTERMASTER BLISS writes very warmly in behalf of the Commissariat of 1885, but we are sure he has put upon the former letter on the subject a construction never intended. "T's" contention was for a trained commissariat, and in support of his case he alleged that a supply of trained men would have ensured a more satisfactory service in the Northwest in 1885. It is not a serious reflection upon a commissariat officer to say that he would likely improve with experience.

CAPT. WEEKS' letter in our correspondence columns would lead one to infer that the Charlottetown riflemen are not to have a range unless they pay for it themselves, but this surely cannot be the state of the case, especially in view of