

who are known marksmen, and who have taken the greatest possible interest in the Dominion Rifle Association, and other rifle associations. These gentlemen spent three or four days in Quebec, inspecting the cartridge factory, examining the different component parts of the cartridges, seeing how they were put together, testing the powder, and trying the cartridges by having some of the men belonging to "A" Battery for one or two days to fire them off, for the purpose of testing them thoroughly. The report of that Board is as follows:—

"The Board are of unanimous opinion—

"1st. That the process of manufacture of the Dominion cartridges is perfectly satisfactory, the greatest care being taken in overlooking and testing the component parts of each cartridge, by which the slightest defect or blemish must be discovered; that the powder used is the R.F.G., Waltham Abbey, such as is used at Woolwich in the manufacture of Snider ball cartridges.

"2nd. That the tests from the Whitworth fixed rests, of the Dominion ammunition, were quite satisfactory, the result, as shown on the annexed diagrams, being that the variation was much within the limit of the Woolwich test.

"3rd. The Dominion ammunition gave a better result than the English No. 9 of the years 1877 and 1882, from a fixed rest at 500 yards—as shown on the accompanying diagram.

"4th. The result of the individual shooting on the Lévis range, at 200 and 600 yards, by a squad of sixteen men from "A" Battery C.A., and the 8th Royal Rifles, satisfied the Board of the uniform strength and quality of the Dominion Ammunition. Therefore, the Board have no hesitation in recommending the Dominion ammunition for issue and general use in Canada.

"The Board, in conclusion, have much pleasure in testifying to the superior qualifications of the Superintendent of the Dominion Cartridge Factory, Major Prévost, who afforded them every facility in furthering their investigation.

"Signed at Quebec, this 11th day of October, 1883.

"T. J. DUCHESNAY, Lt.-Col.,  
"D.A.G., M.D. No. 7, President Board of Survey

"Edwin B. Beer, Lieut.-Col., Commanding 74th Battalion.

"E. G. Scott, Lieut.-Col. Commanding 8th R.R.

"Charles J. Short, Major "B" Battery, R.S.C.

"H. F. Perley, Capt. H.Q. Staff.

"G. H. Balfour, Capt. 8th R.R.

"E. A. Macnachten, Lieut., O.G.A."

Mr. MULOCK. Might I ask the hon. Minister if that report was submitted to the Major-General commanding.

Mr. CARON. It came to me through the usual channel. It was sent by the Deputy Adjutant-General to the Adjutant-General, and referred by him to the Major-General, and sent to me.

Mr. MULOCK. Is the report here—the one that was submitted to him?

Mr. CARON. There is no other way of submitting it.

Mr. MULOCK. Does he concur in the report of the board?

Mr. CARON. I think so.

Mr. MULOCK. It is said not. Perhaps the hon. Minister can submit his remarks on the report at a later day.

Mr. CARON. I will be very glad to do so.

Mr. MULOCK. I understand that the report of the board was submitted to the Major-General commanding the forces, and that he made certain remarks upon it which did not sustain it; that in fact there was a conflict of opinion, and that the Major-General pointed out some defect in the system pursued in the cartridge factory in Quebec. However, that may not be correct. The remarks on the report will be in the Department, and the discussion may be deferred until they are produced.

Mr. CARON. There is no report from the Major-General which does not appear in my report.

Mr. MULOCK. I do not say that. What I say is, that the report from which you have quoted was, I understand, submitted to the Major-General commanding, and he made

certain remarks thereon, not in the form of a report, but simply comments.

Mr. CARON. It is quite possible. In any case, I will bring down the remarks.

61. Government Grant to the Dominion of Canada  
Rifle Association..... \$8,000 00

Mr. CARON. It is intended this year to supplement this vote by an amount of \$2,000, to be placed in the Supplementary Estimates for the Wimbledon Team. It is found the amount of \$8,000 was insufficient to keep up the association. This Rifle Association is really the foundation of our system of rifle associations all over the Dominion; marksmen come from the various Provinces here for the purpose of competing. We were never in debt, but last year and the year before, through the efforts made by His Excellency the Marquis of Lorne, certain contributions were received from bankers and other sources which helped to make up the list of prizes. This year it is found that this source of revenue was not only not large but in some instances had failed, and it is very important that we should not make any change in the programme as carried out for the last few years. Without the supplementary vote, it would be necessary to give up Wimbledon or reduce so considerably the list of prizes as to destroy the association. On this account, I ask this supplementary vote of \$2,000. I intend dropping the vote of \$2,000 for Government aid towards sending a team of Canadian Militia artillerymen to Shoeburyness, England, or for artillery competition in Canada, as it is not intended this year to send a team to Shoeburyness.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. It is alleged that the team sent under the present regulations does not, by any means, represent, owing to the mode of its selection, the very best marksmen in Canada. Of course, there is something to be said on both sides; but I think it is desirable that if we incur the expense of sending a team across, our very best marksmen should go, particularly, as I understand, the men with whom they have to compete are not subject to the same restrictions as those to which I believe our men are subject. This puts our Canadian marksmen at a great disadvantage, considering we have to choose from 4,000,000, whereas in England the choice can be made from about 40,000,000.

Mr. CARON. There are many opinions on this subject. Some very high authorities hold exactly what the hon. gentleman has stated, that from the fact that some of our crack shots are sent repeatedly to England, the association has not taken the best mode of choosing competitors. No doubt, the men sent are the very best marksmen we have, but the opinion is expressed that those marksmen who have, on more than one occasion, represented Canada at Wimbledon, should not be allowed to go back on the team, but that they should be replaced by others. The great difficulty is what the hon. gentleman has pointed out, that we have only a population of 4,500,000 out of which to select competitors, who must compete with the picked men of 40,000,000. The hon. gentleman will see the difficulty with us is to secure a number of men to devote that time to rifle practice, so as to enable us to make a good selection. I think, on the whole, Canada has reason to be proud of the efforts of our marksmen in England, and this practice has had the effect of promoting a feeling favourable to rifle practice in Canada. It is productive of what I believe to be the best possible results, and I am of opinion that this \$8,000, supplemented by \$2,000, is really money invested in the best possible way, so far as Canada is concerned.

Mr. VAIL. I have always strongly advocated the granting of a sufficient sum to enable the association to send a team home, but I must say I am sorry to see this increase; \$8,000 is as much as the Department should grant, consider-