

3. The objects of the Association are the encouragement of the militia of the Dominion in the acquisition of skill in the use of the rifle, as well as the development generally of rifle-shooting among all classes of our people.

4. Believing that these aims will commend themselves to Your Excellency's approval, we ask Your Excellency to add strength to the Association by becoming its Patron.

5. We venture to refer to the contests in which, during the past eight years, Canadian riflemen have taken part at Wimbledon, and we recall, with grateful satisfaction, that the prizes won by the first representatives of the Dominion in these contests were received by them from the hands of Her Royal Highness.

6. We offer our humble duty to Your Excellency as the representative of our beloved Queen, and we join in the prayers of our fellow-subjects for the health and happiness of Your Excellency and Her Royal Highness, assuring Your Excellency that we esteem beyond all measure the confidence which Her Majesty has most graciously signified by placing her daughter at the head of our social life.

C. STUART, Lt.-Col.,
Secretary.

C. S. GZOWSKI, Lt.-Col.,
President.

His Excellency the Governor-General made the following reply :

Colonel Gzowski and Gentlemen of the Council of the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association :

This is not the first time, as you are so good as to call to my remembrance, that I have had the pleasure of meeting members of your Association. It is only a short time ago that the Princess had the satisfaction to hand to the stalwart representatives of Canada the prizes which they had won at the great competition at Wimbledon, where the prowess with the rifle so remarkably exhibited by the Canadians, after the disturbing effects of a long journey and ocean voyage, won the admiration and praise of all. Long may your presence be a marked and welcome feature of this English contest, where no body of marksmen is more hopefully awaited, and received with a feeling of more true friendship and brotherhood than the members of the Dominion Association, accompanied as they have been by the distinguished Colonel who is your spokesman to-day.

The practice in the use of the rifle, which you do so much to foster, is especially useful where, as in the case of Great Britain and Canada, it is not the habit of the people to wish that much money be spent on military preparation. Recent wars have shown how the fire of small arms not only hold its own in its effect in battle, but how, for defensive purposes, it can bid defiance, when aided by the spade, to the fire of artillery.

Wherever there is an expert rifleman, there may in a short time be a skillful soldier. From what I have seen of the splendid militia of the Dominion, and of the loyalty and devotion of our population, I am sure that your efforts will be well appreciated, and I know that the Imperial Government may always rely on the patriotism and power of Canada for hearty aid and unshrinking courage.