

**THE BISLEY TEAM.**

THE members of the Bisley team paraded at the Victoria Rifles' armory on Friday morning in review order. Lieut.-Col. Starke made a minute inspection of the men. The regulations were read and the members then signed the agreement. There was quite a number of officers of the city corps present and various comments were made as to the success of the team. It is needless to say that every good wish was extended to the representatives of the Canadian militia. Before dismissing the team Lieut.-Col. Starke said he was very much pleased with their appearance. He wished them to remember, whether they were on parade or off, to be neat in their dress. At the shooting matches they could not always be shining, but he knew they would do their best in this direction. He would impress upon them that they were going on a very important mission. They were going to represent Canada and the militia of the Dominion. They were at all times to consider themselves Canadians, and he had no doubt but what the duty they had to perform would be done well. The team this year was a very strong one and he hoped that they would be able to bring back many trophies, and that the prizes will be larger than ever before. While they may not be able to carry the blue ribbon, which was done by Pte. Hayhurst, as it was too much to think of winning twice in succession, still he knew that it would not be their fault if they did not get near or at the top. There was one prize which he hoped they would make a good show in and that was the one put down by Canadians. They would be heavily handicapped in firing against Scotland, England and Ireland, but with a little practice he trusted that they would be able to give a good account of themselves. Major Bruce and himself were anxious to do everything they could for their comfort. If they had any complaints he did not wish them to grumble amongst themselves, but to come straight to the adjutant or himself, and if they, in their judgment, thought the complaint should be rectified, then it would be done at once. They would do all they could for their comfort, and he trusted that they (the men), would do their share. The team had the most of the work on the other side, and he would try to forward that work as much as possible. He trusted that before they got to the other side he would be thoroughly acquainted with every one of the men. He was acquainted with a few of them now, but there were one or two that he had not had the pleasure of meeting before. He hoped that when they returned they would be able to look back with pleasure to the trip of the Bisley team of 1896, and that it would be one of the most

successful trips ever made by a Canadian team. (Applause).

It was a general comment amongst the officers and others present to-day, while Lieut.-Col. Starke was inspecting the team, that not a single rifleman was on this year's contingent. The only dark uniform was that of two artillerymen. This year's team might well be called a "red-coated team." Although not represented amongst the shooters the riflemen are well represented by Lieut.-Col. Starke, 3rd Victoria Rifles.

The Bisley team got a right royal send off from the members of the city corps on Friday. Certainly they left under the most auspicious of conditions, and it is to be hoped that they will be followed with that condition during their visit to England. The Victoria Rifles assembled at their armory, and headed by their band marched to the wharf about half-past ten to do honor to their colonel, who is commandant of the team, and also to Capt. Wilson, who is going as quartermaster. The 6th Fusiliers were not behind, for they too have a representative on the team, namely Staff-Sergt. Lavers. A large number of the men of that regiment were down to bid him good speed. The fife and drum band of the regiment marched from the drill shed to the wharf, playing some excellent airs. There were also a large number of officers of the city corps, and also friends of the commandant. Congratulations and good wishes were the order. The crowd of spectators were each and all anxious to get a look at last year's Queen's Prize winner, who stated to a GAZETTE representative that he would try his best for the blue ribbon this year again. Three hearty cheers were given for the '96 team and they carried with them the good wishes of the militia for their success on the other side. The members of the team were: Lieut.-Col. Starke, commandant; Major Bruce, 10th Royal Grenadiers, Toronto, adjutant; Lieutenant Munroe, 44th Batt., Niagara Falls; Lieut. Ross, Pte. Hayhurst, Sergt. Mitchell, Sergt.-Major Huggins, of the 13th Batt., Hamilton; Q. M. Sergt. Ogg and Sergt. Crowe, of the 1st B.F.A.; Lieut. Weller and Lieut. Runions, 59th Batt., Cornwall; Lieut. King, 45th Batt., Bowmanville; Lieut. Thos. Mitchell, of the 12th York Rangers, Aurora; Lieut. Bent, 93rd Batt., Spring Hill, N.S.; Sergt. George Lavers, of the 6th Fusiliers, Montreal; Pte. Armstrong, 10th Royal Grenadiers, Toronto; Pte. Neil, Fredericton, N.B., and Pte. Langstroth, 74th Batt., Sussex, N.B. Capt. Spearing, of the 53rd Batt., Sherbrooke, joins the ship at Quebec. Major Macdonald and Staff-Sergt. Harp, 48th Highlanders, Toronto, and Pte. Campbell, 43rd, will join the team at Liverpool. The team will then proceed to the ranges of

the Metropolitan Rifle Range Co., Runemede, Staines, where practice will be engaged in. The team will go into camp about the 13th July, as the matches begin on the 14th.

On Wednesday evening the officers of the Victoria Rifles entertained Lieut.-Col. Starke at supper in the comfortable dining-room in the armory. Many of his friends wanted to give him a big dinner, but he expressed a strong preference for a quiet evening with his own officers and a few personal friends. Major Sims presided, and besides all the officers of the Vics. there were present: Capt. Macdougall, Majors Ibbotson, Blaiklock, MacLean, Capt. Costigan, V.S., Lieut. MacEachern, Lieut. Cushing and Mr. Geo. Gillespie. The gallant colonel's health was drunk 'mid much applause, and speeches were made in which many kind things were said and best wishes expressed for the success of the team.

Capt. Wilson, of the Vics., accompanies the team as honorary quartermaster, paying all his own expenses. After the matches he and Col. Starke will take a short trip on the Continent.

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