

General Philip Henry Sheridan, commander of the United States Army, died on Sunday last, after a prolonged illness, from which it had been thought he was recovering lately. Sheridan was born in Somerset, Ohio, in 1831. Having graduated at West Point in 1853, he served in Texas and Oregon until the outbreak of the civil war. During the war, his ability and gallantry gained him rapid promotion, he being created a Major-General just before—in March, 1866—he joined General Grant's army to strike the final blow for Lee's overthrow. In 1869 Sheridan became a Lieutenant-General, and in 1884, on General Sherman's retirement, he succeeded to the command of the U. S. Army. The rank of General had been done away with in the meantime, but early this year it was revived, general Sheridan attaining to that rank only when down with the ailment which on Sunday had its fatal termination in the failure of the action of his heart. Of the deceased the following tribute was lately published: "The statement that General Sheridan fought seventy-five battles and was never defeated implies a wonderful record. But people who know him best can well believe as much. "Eternal vigilance" was practically his motto in the field. One of his staff officers says "he never slept," which may be interpreted as meaning that he left nothing to chance. During a campaign a horse bridled and saddled always stood every night by his tent, ready for his master to mount at any moment. In a word, Sheridan made of war a business into which he put an amount of energy and brains that few men could command."

The Militia Pastime.

The proposed telegraphic match between the Eighth Royal Rifles and the Toronto Rifle Association is off, it is understood because the Eighth wished to fire it with the Snider—the military rifle—whilst the Association preferred sticking to Martini practice.

A Halifax paper states that the band of the 63rd Rifles would like to have a telegraphic rifle competition with any other band in the Dominion. A challenge from the staff of the 63rd still remains, we believe, without acceptance by any other staff.

Halifax Garrison Artillery Win from Toronto.

The Halifax Garrison Artillery having accepted the general challenge of the Toronto Rifle Association for a telegraphic team competition, this took place on Saturday afternoon last, and resulted in a handsome victory for the plucky H. G. A., who scored 674 against 641 for the redoubtable Toronto team. The usual conditions of these matches governed—eight men each side, Martini rifles, seven shots at 200, 500 and 600 yards. At Toronto variable light and wind interfered with the scoring, whilst at the Bedford range a torrent of rain descended upon the Haligonians, who nevertheless made the high average of 84¼ points per man. They beat Toronto at each range, as will be seen from the scores detailed below:

HALIFAX GARRISON ARTILLERY.				TORONTO RIFLE ASSOCIATION.					
Capt. Harris.....	30	28	34	92	A. D. Cartwright....	30	29	29	88
Sergt. Harris.....	32	30	30	92	Tom Mitchell.....	29	28	29	86
Bomb. Fader.....	27	34	28	89	R. McVittie.....	28	30	25	83
Capt. Adams.....	29	30	29	88	G. M. Donnelly.....	30	23	29	82
Capt. Maxwell.....	32	26	27	85	Walter Macdonald..	28	26	27	81
Lieut. Flowers.....	29	28	24	81	Wm. Harp.....	29	28	24	81
Major Garrison.....	27	17	30	74	Geo. Thompson.....	28	22	26	76
Lieut. Dimock.....	29	27	17	73	A. G. Ronan.....	29	16	18	64
Totals.....	235	220	219	674	Totals.....	231	202	208	641

Remarkably equal shooting has this year been done by the brothers Harris—Captain and Sergeant respectively—who head the list for Halifax. This is the third occasion on which their totals have been the same, and once they were identical at each range; they always shoot with one another if possible.

On Saturday next 11th August, there will probably be a return match between these associations, and if a final match is necessary it will be fired as early as possible.

The Eighth Royal Rifles.

The annual matches of the 8th Royal Rifles, Quebec, were fired at the St. Joseph ranges, on Saturday last, and brought together quite a large gathering of local shots, several veteran members of the regiment

on the retired list competing, as well as civilians and visitors from outside corps one of whom Staff-Sergt. Wynne, 5th Royal Scots, took second place in the open match. The scoring was lowered by the weather being very unfavourable, a strong gale blowing from the east all day, more especially during the morning shooting. A large number of friends of the battalion and others interested visited the ranges during the day, among these being Quebec's popular D.A.G., Lt.-Col. Duchesnay, several officers of sister corps and representatives from the Canadian Cartridge Factory, who seemed to be well satisfied at the result of the firing and the favourable comments of the competitors, the ammunition used being the D. C. issue of 1888. Everything in connection with the matches passed off very smoothly.

The first was for Maiden stakes—7 rounds at 400 yards, the prize winners being: Corpl. C. MacKedie, 24; Ptes. W. Davidson, 24; W. Kennedy, 23; G. H. Parke, 21; Bouchet, 21; Murgatroyd, 19; and J. Clarke, 18.

In the Battalion Match—7 shots at 200, 500 and 600 yards—the first prize, consisting of the Gilmour cup as well as cash, went to Sergt. Hartley, his and the other prize scores standing thus:

Sgt. R. Hartley, E Co..	27	28	20	75	Sgt.-Major Argue.....	23	26	14	63
Lt.-Col. Miller.....	23	22	27	72	Staff-Sgt. Perrett.....	23	22	16	61
Cpl. A. Douglas, C Co..	30	27	12	69	Pte. Thomson, F Co....	27	19	15	61
Sgt J. Goudie, B Co....	20	22	24	66	Staff-Sgt. Morrison....	25	23	13	61
Pt. R. Norton, F Co....	28	23	15	66	Corpl. R. Norton, C Co.	20	17	21	58

A company competition—five men a side—took place in connection with this match. C won with 301 points, F making a good second, with 264.

The Billingsley cup went with the first prize in the next match, the Association, at 500 and 600 yards, five rounds. The prize scores were :

Color-Sergt. T. Ross, F. Co..	16	20	36	Sergt. J. Goudie, B Co.....	19	12	31
Staff-Sergt. Morrison.....	23	12	35	Corpl. Norton, C Co.....	16	14	30
Pte. Thomson, F Co.....	19	14	33	Sergt. Hartley, E Co.....	17	13	30
Corpl. Hawkins, C Co.....	15	17	32	Corpl. Davidson, D Co.....	11	17	28
Lieut.-Col. Miller.....	17	14	31				

An average of inners in the fourteen shots, seven at 500 and seven at 600, gave Sergt. Goudie the first prize in the All Comers' match, including the Turner and Maxham cups. The winning scores were:

Sergt. Goudie, 8th R. R. . .	28	28	56	Cl.-Sgt. Mountain, 8th R.R	24	24	48
Staff-Sgt. Wynne, 5th R.S.	34	21	55	Lt.-Col. Miller, " "	31	17	48
Pte. Parke, 8th R.R.....	25	27	52	Corpl. Norton " "	27	20	47
Pte. Thomson, " ".....	28	22	50	Mr. F. Hawkins.....	24	22	46
Pte. Brown, " ".....	24	24	48	Sergt. Hartley, 8th R.R. . .	30	16	46

Sergt. Goudie headed the grand aggregate with 153 points, the P. Q. R. A. badge forming a portion of this prize. Col. Miller was a good second with 151. Six of the aggregate leaders became entitled to free transportation to the Provincial matches, these being: Sergt. Goudie, 153; Sergt. Hartley, 151; Pte. Thomson, 144; Col.-Sergt. T. Ross, 136; Corpl. Norton, 135; Corpl. Douglas, 131.

First place in an extra series match, five shots at 500 yards, was taken by Corpl. Douglas with 23 points; and 13 points secured the twenty-seventh and last prize.

The London Times reports that experiments at Cape Town in signalling with electric light reflected from the clouds were a complete success. Experiments were also made with a vessel at sea, with the result of flashing a signal fifty miles away.

For some years past the lance, which was considered the weapon *par excellence* of the Russian or Cossack cavalry, has been gradually substituted by the carbine for the majority of the horse regiments in the service of the Czar. Not a little surprise has been lately excited, consequently, in Germany, at the reported intention on the part of the Berlin military authorities, to restore this most ancient type of arm again to favour. Besides the sabre and carbine usually carried by Hussars and Dragoons, it is under consideration to provide them, like Uhlans, with lances, but without pennons, for their better distinction as separate corps. It is also denied, as lately affirmed, that the German cuirassiers are to be deprived of their breast plates or steel corslets.

The late Emperor William only used two swords and one sabre throughout his long fighting career. The first sword was his boyish weapon, carried from 1810 to 1834, the second was a present from the Czar Nicholas, which served him from 1834 to the time of the war with Austria in 1866. On the memorable day of Sadowa the Emperor adopted an infantry sabre, which he wore to the last, and on which he had engraved the names of all his victories in the Austrian and Franco-Prussian campaigns. These historical weapons are to be stored in the Berlin Museum, together with the sabre belonging to the Emperor's father, Frederick William III., which always stood by the side of his writing table in his study.