

## Sports and Pastimes

The increased interest recently shown in athletic sports by members of the militia force may be a coincidence with our introduction of a sports department or may have been in a degree encouraged by our departure.

Which ever it is, it certainly appears to justify the innovation, and encourages us to continue a feature which ought to be of undoubted benefit to the force.

Members of the force might assist me very materially if they would more liberally supply me with items of news as to the doings of their various regiments. Activity on the part of one corps often urges another on, and the best means of circulating the news of the force throughout the Dominion is through the medium of the columns of the MILITIA GAZETTE.

The activity on the part of militiamen in athletics to which I have referred induces me to believe that the present is an opportune moment to suggest the formation of a Dominion "Military Amateur Athletic Association," for the development of athletic amusements and the encouragement of all kinds of athletic competitions among members of the militia force.

Such an association could not fail to have a most beneficial effect upon amateur athletics throughout the country, and would, moreover, create a bond of union, and unity of interest between members of corps, which would greatly assist in keeping them together.

A very opportune chance for the formation of such an association will occur next month when the meetings of the Dominion Rifle Association, Dominion Artillery Association and Canadian Military Rifle League are to be held in Ottawa and will bring members of the force from all parts of the Dominion together.

And a very appropriate person to call a meeting to discuss the advisability of forming such an association is to be found in the person of Captain P. B. Taylor, of the Governor General's Foot Guards, the popular and energetic secretary of the Ottawa Amateur Athletic Association.

The number of sporting clubs of various kinds connected with the most efficient regiments in the force, is the best evidence of the beneficial effect such organizations have in holding the men together, and the more they are encouraged the better it will be for the corps in which they exist.

The Vics have for years, I believe, been the only corps who supported a cricket club. This year, I understand

they are to have a competitor, and the 43rd "Gatineau Beavers," are said to have an eleven ready for the field who will give the Vics a match at any time.

The Royal Scots and Governor-General's Foot Guards have already met on the ice at Hockey, and another match is now on the tapis to be played in Ottawa. The former corps also have one rink, at least, of curlers, who lately gave a rink of the Vics a close and exciting game.

The 43rd also claim to shine at the "roarin' game," and have announced their readiness to put two rinks on the ice at any time, against either the Montreal or Toronto Brigades, and if against the latter to play with Granites.

The various corps in the larger cities of the Dominion possess athletic combinations, which if banded together as a Dominion Military Association would materially benefit and strengthen the militia force throughout the country, and would arouse an interest in it and its doings which unfortunately does not at present exist.

### HOCKEY.

#### CHAMPIONSHIP OF CANADA.

For the fifth time this season have the Ottawa Hockey Club successfully defended their title to the championship of Canada.

The last match played on Thursday last in the Rideau Rink, Ottawa, was one of the finest of the season, and was exceedingly well contested throughout. Indeed it was more by good luck than by good management that the O. A. A. C. obtained the victory.

The Quebec club were minus the services of H. Scott, who was unable to play owing to a recent accident, and was replaced by C. C. Smith. They were strengthened, however, by the presence and encouragement of a large number of friends who accompanied them from Quebec, among whom were a number of the fairest daughters of the ancient capital; this was sufficient to make any club strive its utmost for victory.

And strive hard the Quebec men did. In the first half the game was much in the Ottawa's end of the rink, and the attacks on the O.A.A.C. goal were numerous; there it was that the luck of the Ottawas came in, for although Morel played splendidly and was a veritable stone wall, there can be no doubt that luck favoured them in keeping the puck out. Once the cap was knocked off Morel's head by the puck, and twice it struck the goal posts.

The pace, however, was too hot to be kept up, and after half time it was evident that the Quebecers had made an error in forcing the game as much as they had. Another mistake they made was to rest by sitting or lying down during half-time interval. The Ottawas after a few min-

utes breathing space were on the ice again, and kept moving about to keep their circulation moving. The effect of their judicious conduct was very apparent shortly after play recommenced as their opponents had rather stiffened up by their rest, than benefited themselves by it.

The best point of the whole game was the feature which has distinguished the Quebec club all through the season. They played the game as gentlemen, and showed again that hockey may be played in first-class form without that roughness and disgraceful swiping which is beginning to ruin the most perfect winter game that has ever been started.

Both clubs were in this respect a striking example to the junior members who have been doing their best to make the game one of deliberate butchery.

The strong feature of the champions was their defence, Russell at point and Morel in goal were simply impregnable, and time and again withstood the most determined onslaughts on their flags by opponents who seemed innumerable, they followed so fast on the puck.

It was not until the second half that any of the forwards seemed to shine particularly and then Kerr and Kirby (H) showed some very magnificent play. The teams were:

Ottawa.		Quebec.
Morel.....	Goal.....	Patton
Russell.....	Point.....	Bignell
Young.....	Cover Point.....	Watson
Bradley... }		Smith
C. Kirby.. }	Forwards	Scott
H. Kirby.. }		Scott
Kerr.. }		Davidson

The following evening the champions met Queen's College, Kingston, for the championship of Ontario, and altho' the Kingston men made a good struggle, not for victory but to prevent overwhelming defeat, they had difficulty in preventing the game from ending more disastrously than it did, with a score of five games to nothing.

Next week the O. A. A. C. play the Osgoode Hall men of Toronto for the final in the championship of Ontario.

#### OTTAWA'S RECORD OF VICTORY.

Date.	Against.	Goals Won.	Lost.
Jan. 8.	M.A.A.A. ....	4	3
Jan. 15.	Shamrocks .....	8	3
Jan. 21.	M.A.A.A. ....	10	2
Jan. 28.	Quebec .....	4	3
Feb. 11.	M.A.A.A. ....	3	1
Feb. 18.	Quebec .....	2	0
Feb. 19.	Queen's Kingston ...	5	0

### SKATING.

The annual races of the Canadian Amateur Skating Association were held on the M.A.A.A. rink in Montreal on Saturday last. The principal events resulted in easy wins for J. Donohue, the American, who without being pushed distanced Gordon, Carroll, and others who were expected to be able to push him if not beat him.