

The undersigned would however be wanting in respect to the position he occupies as President of the Association, and to the position the Association itself occupies in Canada, if he did not urge upon the Council the importance and necessity, if the existing spirit so favorable to the Rifle movement is to be preserved, encouraged, and maintained in the Country, to determine that no other Team depart for Wimbledon as a detachment of Canadian Militia, but as Canadian Riflemen representing and sent by the Dominion Rifle Association, an Association supported by our Parliament, and recognized by the Country as an Institution for organizing, despatching, and controlling such representation.

There are many valid reasons why the Dominion Rifle Association, whilst working in accord and co-operating with, should, so far as it is possible, be independent of the Adjutant-Generals Department or its Regulations. One of these is that the Association has not been formed for the benefit of parties connected with the Militia Service only, but it is open to all Civilians, the object being to secure the most general introduction of the Rifle in the country as a weapon of defence, and of the education in the use of it.

The Constitution provides that "any person being a Subscriber of \$2.00 per annum, shall become a member of the "Association." The Association has obtained, and there are reasons to believe that it is likely to continue to obtain, increased valuable aid from Civilians who would at once withdraw their co-operation and support if they saw the Association converted into an offshot of the Militia Department, subject to the numerous Departmental regulations.

Without, however, entering into further explanation of disadvantages arising from too close a connection between the Dominion Rifle Association and the Adjutant General's Department, the undersigned submits this brief Memorandum detailing the circumstances connected with the selection and despatch of the Wimbledon Team last year, and has to conclude by most earnestly urging upon the attention of the Council the necessity