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The Queen's Birthday Celebrations.

All over the Dominion the Militia appear to have this year as usual taken the lead in the Queen's Birthday celebrations, and as the result of no little trouble and expense to themselves have furnished the general populace entertainment for a day's recreation. They had their reward in the openly expressed admiration, and the liberally bestowed applause. If a little tight in their grip upon the purse strings when military expenditures are mooted, Canadians entertain no feelings but those of respect and esteem for their fellow-citizens who in time of peace voluntarily don the soldier's uniform. It is true that in some places the general public, while appreciative of the militiamen, are also very apathetic and undemonstrative, thus robbing their appreciation of a good effect it might otherwise produce.

In the greatest military centre—Montreal—the most imposing demonstration of the day took place. Elsewhere in this issue particulars are given of this grand review, in which not only the local forces participated but also crack corps from Toronto and Ottawa, and the smart little company of regulars from St. John. Arriving on Sunday morning, "B" Company had to return the same day. The Queen's Own stayed in Montreal until Sunday afternoon, and the Guards until Saturday evening, and all left with golden opinions of the hospitality of their Montreal comrades. The entertainment was very largely left to individual effort, especially in the case of the Guards, though the Queen's Own, rank for rank, were pretty well under the wing of the Victoria Rifles; and the enjoyment was more general than if the time had been largely taken up with formal receptions and entertainments.

The great beauty of the "review" was the simplicity of the affair, consisting merely of the salute by artillery and infantry, and the march past. It was timed to commence at noon, but an hour before that every point of vantage about Fletcher's field was taken up, and each regiment was criticised or admired as it took up position on the field. In the intervals the spectators were able to acquire the information that the handsome, stylishly mounted gentleman in civilian dress was the Minister of Militia, Sir Adolphe Caron, and that the veteran by whom he rode was Lieut. General Sir Fred. Middleton, the gallant officer who four years previously had presided over a Queen's Birthday review of nearly as many Canadian militiamen on the plain adjoining Battleford, after he had safely tided them through their baptism of fire in the Northwest. A strange face to most of those present was that of Lieut.-Col. John Macpherson, Director of Stores of the Militia Department, who was on the staff on this occasion. He is a veteran in the Departmental service, where he keeps an ever watchful eye upon all matters connected with the equipment of the forces. Lieut.-Col. Houghton, D.A.G., had to

be pointed out to many as the officer who had lately succeeded Lieut.-Col. Van Straubensee in command of the district, and who bids fair to rival that exceedingly popular officer in the affection of his command.

Great interest was taken in each corps of those to pass in review, and one and all appeared to strive for the palm of excellence. The Troop of Cavalry looked smart and trim; "Stevenson's Battery," as the field artillery have been popularly styled, looked serviceable as usual; the Garrison Artillery well maintained the reputation won in Col. Oswald's time; the Engineers looked very serious and business like. The appearance of the Infantry School Company—model soldiers in every respect—was a revelation, and their natural marked superiority to all the other corps was such as to attract general attention. The Governor General's Foot Guards, the household troops from the Capital, were observed with particular interest. They presented an excellent appearance. Their uniform is one of the nicest possible, so far as appearance is concerned, and the companies were well drilled, marching past very steadily. The Fifth Royal Scots' picturesque uniform—the kilt—drew upon them also general attention, under which they showed to advantage; and the same may be said of the Sixth Fusiliers, the last of the scarlet brigade to pass in review. The Fifth and Sixth justly pride themselves upon their physique.

Of the rifle corps, the 1st Prince of Wales Rifles made by long odds the least favourable appearance, the corps possibly still suffering from disorganization consequent on a recent change in command. The Victoria Rifles, though anything but at their best, made a creditable appearance; and so did the 65th, which corps perhaps never looked better. Last of all came the Queen's Own Rifles, whose nine companies passed by in splendid style, all apparently braced up for the occasion, and each man determined to justify the pride the Queen City takes in the corps. Notice must be made also of the cadet company from St. Mary's College. The boys appeared a trifle nervous at the company in which they found themselves; but they deserve congratulation upon the plucky spirit which brought them to the parade ground. On the whole, the review may be pronounced one of the most satisfactory ever held in Montreal, and much good fellowship in all ranks was developed by the day's demonstration.

A handsome stone striking clock, a gift from the Optician, Mr. J. H. Steward, London, Eng., to the Dominion Rifle Association, has been placed as first prize in the new match in this season's programme—the Snider aggregate. It is valued at six guineas. The other prizes are one of \$15; one of \$10; and twenty-five of \$5 each.

It has been decided that the Ontario members of the team for Wimbledon shall report at Montreal on the 18th June, and take the Parisian at that city; to be joined at Quebec by the five from Nova Scotia, who report at the Ancient Capital on the 19th. The Parisian sails from Quebec on the 20th. The team will practise on the range of the Cambridge University Volunteers the week preceeding Wimbledon. In the absence of Lieut.-Col. Thos. Bacon, who goes in command of the team, Lieut. S. L. Shannon will be acting Secretary of the Dominion Rifle Association.