

The D. R. A. Programme.

The programme for the next meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association has been decided upon. What changes are made are all such as cannot fail to commend themselves to the competitors. The objection to using the Snider rifle at 600 yards having been removed, the Minister of Militia match will be at 500 and 600, as usual, in place of 400 and 500, as last year, and the 600 yards of the Dominion match will be fired with the Snider in place of the Martini. There being, as formerly, only the five shots of the first range of the Macdougall match to be fired at 400 yards, the usual sized bull's-eye will be reverted to at that range. Only two of the Grand Aggregate matches will be fired with the Martini, these being, as usual, single range matches at 600 yards.

The order of the matches has been so arranged that nothing but Snider shooting will be called for, except in extra series, on the first three days. On the fourth day (Thursday) the Standing match, the last for the Snider, will be fired first thing in the morning, and the remainder of the day will be given to the Martini matches. On Friday morning, as last year, the London Merchants' Cup and the Governor-General's match will be fired. Lord Stanley has signified his intention of continuing the Governor-General's prize money.

A new feature of the programme is a Snider aggregate prize list, with \$150 in twenty-seven prizes, and in the generosity of their hearts the Executive have decided that there shall be no entry fee for this. The more aggregates the merrier, for they greatly intensify the interest in the firing, and because of the aggregate a man will struggle gamely to wind up well a score with an apparently hopeless beginning.

It is the intention to set apart one of the extra series targets at 500 yards, and one of those at 600, for pool shooting, this also being a new feature at D. R. A. meetings. As the greater part of the extra series shooting is done for sighting purposes, the innovation will doubtless be quite popular. The programmes are now in the printer's hands and will shortly be ready for issue.

From a Militia Officer's Farewell.

(Quebec Chronicle.)

I cannot well say *adieu*,
But rather *au revoir*;
You are not friends of yesterday,
Nor comrades of a year;
But have, for five and twenty years,
In camp—at home; abroad;
Shouldered with me the bayonet,
Or buckled on the sword;
At mess or march; in peace or war;
Together, side by side,
We helped to make our little Force
A credit and a pride:—
We saw it in its infancy,
A few raw volunteers;
We saw, and marvelled as we saw,
This Force in later years

Well disciplined; well officered;
Well generalled, I ween,
Fighting its way like veterans
For Country and for Queen;
And proving to the world abroad
That we, in Canada,
Have turned our little to account
By a wise policy:
That the Militia system here
Is popular as wise,
And well adapted to the wants
That do, or may, arise:
A system as complete I trow
As any near or far;
All honour to our Minister—
The Minister of War!

Well was it for our Canada,
When yet in embryo
This Military system dawned,
Beset by friend and foe,
Whose misplaced zeal, or factious hate,
Alike the fabric shook,
That Sir George Cartier's mantle fell
On one so full of pluck—

One, teeming with the brightest thoughts,
Quick as the lightning's flash!
With courage, strength and energy,
And bold, heroic dash.
And now Success, the arbiter,
Approves his course as wise,
And Sir Adolphe may proudly feel
He won, and wears, the prize.

And England lent us Generals,
As you are all aware,
Who helped to build this fabric up,
Or keep it in repair;
For all were clever architects,
'Though *one* succeeded best,
And *one* found the material less
Adhesive than the rest;
These Generals as follows, came:—
Sir P. MacDougall, then
Robertson-Ross and Selby Smith,
And Luard—able men.
But still we lacked the confidence
Training alone can yield,
Not got from theory, but gained
Upon the Battle-field.

And it has fallen to the lot
Of one, and only one,
To draw us with a power akin
To the magnet stone;
And to create a confidence,
And an *esprit de corps*,
That woke up feelings in us which
We never felt before;
For he was with us in the field,
All pluck and sympathy;
And careful, almost to a fault,
Of all his soldiery;
But dauntless, fearless for himself,
And for himself alone—
Our worthy Major-General,
Sir Frederick Middleton!

Regimental News.

Colonel C. J. Macdonald's numerous friends in the militia force will be pleased to learn that though he has retired from the command of the Princess Louise Fusiliers, the Militia Department has retained him for important duties in the service. Among officers and men no officer has been more deservedly popular than Colonel Macdonald. His further promotion at an early date would give great satisfaction in militia circles in this province.—*Halifax Mail*.

Winnipeg.

The following paragraphs concerning the 90th Rifles are from the *Siftings* of last week:

A church parade is contemplated for May 10th.

The band is practising for the first promenade concert which will likely take place some evening next week.

Regimental orders of April 29th contained the following promotions: To be sergeant of the bicycle corps, Pte. Fred W. Armitage. A Company (Capt. McPhillips)—To be colour sergeant, Sergt. G. H. Merritt; Pte. Lamb to be lance-sergeant; Pte. J. McAllister to be corporal. Sergt. G. H. Merritt is one of the veterans of the 90th, and has won his spurs by constant attention to drill and discipline. He was at the front with the troops in 1885 and won the admiration of his comrades by his coolness under fire. His promotion to the colours is looked upon as being in the best interests of the company.

We are compelled to chronicle another deserter from the ranks—not of the regiment, but of the bachelors of which, to their confusion be it said, it is so largely composed—which took place April 24th. The ceremony was performed at Zion Church by the Rev. Mr. Jackson, Sergt. McMillan being united in the golden bonds to Miss Aggie McGuire. The fair bride was assisted through the trying ordeal by Miss R. Macker and Miss N. McGuire. The groom was led to the altar by Sergts. Huckell and Merritt, who acted as right and left guides on the occasion.

Toronto.

The members of the Queen's Own Rifles attended church last Sunday afternoon, the place of worship being the Church of the Redeemer. The muster took place at the drill shed at 2.30. The parade was as usual full dress, officers carrying side arms. "A" and "D" Companies wore their new uniform for the first time. At 3.30 Major Delamere, assisted by Brevet-Major Sankey and Lieut. Mercer, acting adjutant, took command, and the regiment marched by way of Yonge and Bloor streets to the church. The march was enlivened by the music of the band and bugles, the selections of the former being from Rossini's "Stabat Mater," Mendelssohn's "Elijah" and Mozart's "Twelfth Mass." A service was printed for use in the church. Rev. Septimus Jones selected the appropriate text: He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.

The rector said he had especial pleasure in addressing the Queen's Own, knowing their reverent behaviour from previous experience. Their progress was also well known, and as a regiment they were steadily rising in the estimation of the community.

The recessional march was through Queen's Park, York and King streets to the drill shed. Lots of people turned out, by the way, to see the volunteers. Owing to the dryness of the roads a cloud of dust was raised all along the route, but the march was otherwise very pleasant. The parade state showed a total of 521.

St. John, N. B.

On Saturday evening, 27th April, the officers of the 62nd Fusiliers and the Rifles assembled in the Fusiliers' club room, Germain street. The occasion was to give proof of their friendship to one of their brother officers, Lieut. J. Fred. McMillan, of the Rifles, who was about to leave for Denver, Colorado, where he intends to permanently reside. Shortly after 8 o'clock, Lieut. McMillan was called to the front, when Col. Blaine on behalf of the officers of the Fusiliers and Rifles, presented the Lieut. with a very handsome gold locket. On one side of the locket is engraved Mr. McMillan's monogram, while on the other side is inscribed the following: "Presented by the officers of the 62nd Fusiliers and Rifles to their brother officer Lieut. J. Frederic McMillan."

After the presentation the company sat down to a sumptuous lunch and when the cloth was removed several toasts were proposed and responded to. Lieut.-Col. Blaine in a very neat speech proposed the health of the Guest of the Evening, which was honoured with cheers, and appropriately responded to by Mr. McMillan. During the evening songs were rendered by Capt. Hartt, of the Rifles, Major Hartt, and Lieut. Manning of the Fusiliers.

Mr. McMillan was for some three years a clerk in the employ of the Maritime bank, and since its failure he has been engaged with the liquidators. In both of these positions he proved himself a very capable, obliging and trustworthy man, and was very popular with the public and