

time and money, as well as a considerable amount of labour. The Government recognize the force as a necessary element in our political existence, but grudge it the starvation allowance which Parliament willingly votes. Employers of labour give it no encouragement—too often do their best to hinder it. Yet, under such conditions it exists, and it flourishes. Why? Simply because in the hearts of the people there is an ingrained military spirit which will find means of development. Because there is in them the spirit of their forefathers—the spirit whose growth in the foregoing remarks I have endeavoured to trace, whose manifestations at various periods in our history I have tried to point out—the spirit which first led to the settlement of America, and which was fed and nourished by the very conditions of the existence of the early pioneers. We see it displayed in the fierce contests for the sovereignty of North America. It animated the captors of Louisburg, and it raged in the breasts of those engaged in the death struggle on the Plains of Abraham. It nerved the U. E. Loyalists in the heroic sacrifice which drove them from every enjoyment of life to exile, hardship and penury. It led the militia of 1812 to victory at Queenston, Lundy's Lane and Chateaugay. It caused them to rise in fury in 1866 to repel the insensate Fenian invasion, and to struggle for places in the ranks of those who were sent to face the probable danger of the North-West rising. And, more than all, its steady glow keeps alive, despite the drawbacks I have mentioned, the force to which we are all proud to belong.

(To be continued.)

Regimental News.

OTTAWA.

New commanding officers have been gazetted, in last Militia General Orders, for both the Guards and 43rd Battalion.

In the Guards the unexpected and generally regretted resignation of Lt.-Col. Todd, has led to the promotion of Major F. Toller, an officer well deserving of his new honour, and thoroughly popular with all ranks in the Guards.

The succession has been quite as happy in the 43rd Battalion, where Major Joshua Wright has been made Lieut. Colonel in place of Lt. Col. Anderson, who retired last fall. Col. Wright has a large contract on hand, if he is to keep the Battalion as well to the front as it has been hitherto. But Col. Anderson has not ceased to take interest in the regiment because he has retired, and the officers who formerly gave him so loyal a support still count upon his advice and assistance.

Capt. J. W. deC. O'Grady, of No. 1 Company 43rd Battalion, has been transferred by the Bank of Montreal, in whose service he has been for twenty years, from

the post of Accountant at Ottawa to be Manager of the branch at Wallaceburgh, in the extreme west of Ontario. The pain of severing his connection with the corps will be an antidote to his pleasure at this well deserved promotion. Capt. O'Grady has been a thoroughly popular officer, and as Captain of the rifle team of the 43rd he has been largely instrumental in securing for the "Beavers" their recent fame as shooting stars. The members of No. 1 Company and the officers of the 43rd turned out in full force at the Drill Hall on Tuesday evening to say good-bye to Capt. O'Grady, and the Company presented him with a handsome travelling bag. The presentation was made by Lieut. Sutherland. Addresses expressive of the general regret at Capt. O'Grady's departure were made by Lt.-Col. Anderson and Major Walsh, former fellow officers; Lt.-Col. Wright, Lieut. Sutherland, Staff-Sergt. Taylor, Col.-Sergt. Boville and Pte. Scott. A pleasant feature of the evening was the unexpected appearance of the band, who by direction of Bandmaster McGillicuddy played a number of selections appropriate to the occasion. Capt. O'Grady left for Wallaceburgh on Wednesday evening, when a large number of his Ottawa friends assembled at the C. P. R. station to give him a parting cheer.

QUEBEC.

Quebec, 26th March.—A smoking concert was held on Monday evening, the 21st instant, under the patronage of Lt.-Col. Prower and officers of the 8th Royal Rifles, assisted by the Instructor and Gymnastic Class of B Battery, R.C.A., in the gymnasium of No. 4 Company, 8th R.R.

The programme consisted of club swinging, juggling, contortions, boxing, fencing, gymnastic exercises, etc.

A meeting of the Queen's Own Canadian Hussars was held on the 23rd inst., called for the purpose of issuing uniforms, etc., preparatory to commencing their annual training. R.M.C. No. 47.

Letters to the Editor.

This paper does not necessarily share the views expressed in correspondence published in its columns, the use of which is freely granted to writers on topics of interest to the Militia.

THE RIFLE LEAGUE.

DEAR SIR,—I have received so many letters lately from all parts of the Dominion enquiring about League matters, that as I cannot find time to answer all individually, will try and do so collectively. Lt.-Col. Gibson (the president) has League matters well in hand, and has just issued a circular letter to the members of the Executive, in which he discusses the affairs of the League, and in which he nominates a well-known and popular officer for the secretaryship, one who is a good shot, has been connected with rifle associations for twenty years, and who has had

from the commencement the welfare of the League at heart.

From present indications it is estimated that about 200 teams will take part in this year's matches, but it would be well if team captains would notify the Secretary (as soon as appointed) how many teams they intend entering, and thereby enable him to know about how many score sheets, etc., to have printed. It would be well for team captains to have on hand enough ammunition for the first match, as it is impossible for the ammunition to reach every team in time.

The first match will take place early in the month of May, as usual.

W. R. PRINGLE.

Toronto, 23rd March, 1892.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY AND THE MONTREAL BRIGADE.

DEAR SIR,—For the benefit of your Toronto correspondent and others who are in the dark concerning the plans of the Montreal troops—or rather Maj.-Gen. Herbert's plans—towards a proper celebration of the coming Queen's Birthday, the following is humbly submitted: The Montreal Brigade will parade in heavy marching order during the afternoon of Saturday, 21st May. The force will take up quarters within the exhibition grounds. Church parade will be ordered for Sunday morning. There will be an early drill on Monday morning, then such of the men as desire to can proceed to their various occupations. On Monday evening the Brigade will be moved across the river to Laprairie, where they will bivouac for the night. Early on the morning of the 24th the Brigade will march out in the direction of St. Johns for the purpose of attacking a force which will advance from that place. St. Johns is about thirty miles from Montreal. The operations will doubtless occupy the entire day, and the troops will return to Montreal by train. The above is all that is definitely known here of Maj.-Gen. Herbert's idea. The Vics will have their Maxim Gun in action on the 24th May. The various corps are drilling hard, and are enthusiastic over the prospect of having some genuine field work. Should outside regiments visit the city on the 24th, the "boys" will doubtless regret not being at home to receive them. The three days under arms will count in the annual dull of this Brigade.

MAXIM.

The idea of a Canadian Military Amateur Athletic Association appears to have been received with much favour, and it is hoped will soon be an established fact, and that it will prove most beneficial to the force. As a means of holding men together and of inducing others to join it ought to be in advance of rifle shooting, and that keeps more men on the active list now than any other inducement.