

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

The Popular Organ of the Active Force of the Dominion.

VOL. VI, No. 48.
Price Five Cents.

OTTAWA, DECEMBER 10th, 1891.

\$2.00 a Year.
\$1.50 in adva. ce.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

We commend attention to the letter in this issue on the subject of the Canadian Military Rifle League. The principle of our correspondent's suggestions we have already advocated on several occasions, and the experience of the past two seasons shows how unsatisfactory it is to award competitive prizes for other than shoulder to shoulder shooting.

The correspondence reproduced from the Toronto press shows the position of affairs with respect to the long threatened closing of the Garrison Common rifle range. A great deal of energy has been devoted to the examination of new sites, while the problem of whether or not the present range can be made safe seems to have been neglected. We believe that it can be made as safe as any range in the country, at an expense no greater than that which will fall upon the Government and the riflemen (more heavily on the latter) should a far distant range be chosen.

The Queen's Own Rifles have formed an athletic association, and as one outcome, an inter-regimental athletic tournament is already mooted. The idea is one which ought to be encouraged. Military and athletic exercises may be closely associated, with great benefit to the participants. The athlete should make the best soldier, and a young man with military training is most likely to have learned those lessons of self-control, indispensable to pleasant and profitable participation in athletics. The advantage of military and athletic combination have been strongly forced upon our attention of late, and in next issue we will have something more to say on this subject, in inaugurating a department to be devoted to such athletic sports as the members of our militia may profitably indulge in.

THAT MATTER OF PRECEDENCE.

The recently published article in which we referred to the anomalous course pursued with respect to the precedence intended to be conferred on the 48th Battalion, Highlanders, now in process of organization in Toronto, having drawn attention to the irregularity of the General Order, a supplementary Order may be expected shortly. It is to be hoped that this will not be in the nature of an aggravation of the no doubt unintended slight offered to the many fine regiments organized during the past quarter of a century, though explanations offered through the daily press make it appear that the intention actually was to ante-date the new organization to 1866.

In the list published of the corps whose precedence would suffer through giving effect to such intention, we included the Fifth Royal Scots of Montreal, on the assumption made without reflection that their seniority dated only from 12th April, 1872, when the regiment as now existing was organized; but a perusal of the General Order of that date shows that the Royal Scots are not affected. It reads:—

“5th Battalion, Royal Light Infantry, Montreal.—Adverting to General Orders (14) 2nd June, 1871, and (18) 12th August, 1871, the 5th Battalion, ‘Royal Light Infantry,’ Montreal, is hereby authorized to be reorganized, and will be reinstated in its former position and precedence in the Active Militia of the Dominion.”

The old regiment had been disbanded only a few months previously, and it was natural that when a number of its former members found themselves in a position to organize anew on a more satisfactory basis, they should have been granted the privilege of re-instatement in the much prized seniority before enjoyed, for the disbanded regiment had its origin, officially, in a General Order dated 31st January, 1862. The latter, rather than the date of reorganization given in the Militia List, is that from which the Royal Scots take seniority.

Their case, however, cannot be well taken as a reason for the action in that of the 48th Highlanders, to which we have taken exception. There is absolutely no similarity in the circumstances. Instead of the re-organization of a regiment by former members, a few months after official disbandment, we have an entirely new corps created at a place hundreds of miles distant from the headquarters of that, defunct for ten years, whose number it is to bear. This new corps has absolutely no claim to favour at the expense of any others. The fact that the promoters are influential men of the highest standing, in a chief city of the Dominion, and that that city may be entitled to a larger share of military favours than enjoyed in the past, are excellent arguments to use in support of applications for financial assistance; but in a purely sentimental matter such as this particular question of precedence, the considerations should be of a different nature.

No doubt the order of a few weeks ago had its origin in a misunderstanding of the situation. As we have already pointed out that part of it purporting to assign precedence is irregular and of no effect, being in direct contravention of the “Regulations and Orders.” Further action in this respect being therefore called for, we have given prominence to the matter, with a view to securing the most careful official consideration.

THE NEW DRILL BOOK.

(The Broad Arrow.)

In three last issues we have given a *précis* of Parts I, II and V of the new Drill Book, which were issued for trial at the Aldershot manoeuvres. Probably the alterations, or a slight modification of them, will be finally adopted, and they will for the most part be considerable improvements on old methods. We dread, however, to think what the "wearers of green spectacles" will say when they learn that the slow march is to be abolished. But even civilians can keep step at a funeral, although they have not been taught the goose step. The ceremonious business of "taking open order" also disappears, and for this purpose the rear rank will simply step back two paces and take up its own dressing. That cherished invention of some tactical expert, "the high step," or "prance," also disappears. The most important change that is to take place in elementary drill is the concession of 36 inches in place of 24 for each soldier in the ranks, whilst in double rank the rear rank is to be 60 inches from the front rank, instead of 30 inches, as formerly.

In company drill there is an important change, which is a mixture of the German company column and of the group formation of the "heaven-born soldier." The company will be divided into fire units, which are in effect sections or sub-sections of men always accustomed to work and stand together in the ranks. In battalions on the low establishment the sections would be about 5 files, or on a war establishment the company column would stand with 8 sub-sections of the same number. We do not see, however, how this plan can work at home, where, owing to guards, fatigues, schools of instruction, and what not, the company fire units may consist of one man each! As our abstract of changes shows, there will be no attempt to equalise the companies, further than, if a company does not exceed 10 files, it is to be joined on as two complete fire units to another company; in the same way if the number of a fire unit falls below 4 men, it is to be joined on to another fire unit, retaining its own organization. With equalising, sizing a company preparatory to drill falls to the ground. Our "green spectangled" friends, however, will say that it does not matter, as our soldiers are as small and as like one another as peas. The company is to "fall in" in a column of sections or sub-sections, and each of these will be numbered off independently. In Part V, which deals with the attack formation, it is stated that there will be 2 paces interval between fire units and 6 paces between companies, but not having seen the part allotted to battalion drill, it is not clear whether the rule is general or only for attack, whether, in fact, when line is formed, the intervals will be left.

The greatest interest in the proposed changes, however, attaches itself to Part V, which deals with "movements in presence of an enemy and battle formation in attack." The following extract from the Drill Book of 1889 enunciates the theory on which the attack formation contained in it was formed:—"Although the history of war shows that rules have often to be set aside, yet normal tactical formations have a real absolute value, and, when adapted to the configuration of the ground and to the nature and condition of the troops, seldom fail to influence favourably the issue of a contest." On the other hand, the proposed Drill Book, in imitation of the latest German production, says:—"Fixed rules for movements in presence of and action against an enemy cannot be laid down." Which of these two theories is the right one? The new Drill Book goes on to say:—"The formations adopted by the attacking force must be suited to the character of the enemy, to his mode of fighting, to the weapons with which he is armed, and to the ground to be traversed." These last observations are a series of truisms, no doubt equally true at all times and

under all systems, but they do not for all that nullify the advantage of a normal form of attack. Given an extensive range of ground, comprising hill and valley, where entrenchments and field works may be shown and varied at will, the no-fixed form system is clearly the best, and some day, when the British public looks upon the army as something with which it has a great deal to do besides simply paying for it, there will be no station in the United Kingdom where every facility for the instruction of troops will not be found. But at present, when at most stations in Great Britain and Ireland the opportunities for practising the attack are wanting, a normal form seems almost a necessity. There is, to be sure, the following in the "General Principles":—"The firing line moves as a rule in extended order"; but again we find the somewhat contradictory rule that "As many men should be placed in the firing line as the ground will permit, consistently with the efficient use of their rifles." The last disposition seems to resolve itself into a continuous single-rank line, each man occupying 30 inches. We should say that the true principle is that no more men should be placed in the firing line than is necessary to maintain a continuous advance. A subaltern is to command each half company, and a non-commissioned officer is to be in command of each fire-unit; moreover, in each fire-unit a selected soldier is to be trained as leader to take the place of the non-commissioned officer if required. The adjutant or other selected officer, with the regimental sergeant-major, are to have charge of the regimental ammunition carts, and to see to the supply of ammunition from them to the firing line.

The amount of ammunition to be taken on service for infantry is 322 rounds for the magazine rifle and 290 for the Henry-Martini. The soldier will carry 100 rounds of small bore ammunition, as against 70 Henry-Martini, which will be a considerable gain. We desire once more to press on the military authorities our recommendation for the creation at Aldershot of a special instructional battalion for infantry, such battalion having a specially-selected commanding officer, a major, and an adjutant, but being otherwise composed of officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates taken from all the battalions of infantry that are not serving at Aldershot. Problems of drill and minor tactics would then be confined to such a battalion for solution. If there is to be no normal form of attack it is most important that all ranks should be thoroughly practised and trained to make use of the most suitable formations and tactics under all circumstances.

We shall probably see as many methods of attack as there are commanding officers, and whilst the commanding officer who has had nothing but a barrack square to drill his men in will probably stick to the old British line formation covered by skirmishers, other commanding officers will go in for "waves" and "groups" and all sorts of fancy work! *Tot homines, tot sententie.*

The importance of the Canadian-Pacific route is now fully recognised. At the present moment a member of the staff of *The Broad Arrow* is making his way by stages to Vancouver, and will shortly furnish his impressions as to the resources and value of this route as a military line to India. Meanwhile, the Admiralty are about to test the rapidity with which a considerable body of seamen can be despatched to the Pacific Station by way of Halifax and Vancouver. Fifty officers and some 700 men are to make the journey, and the experience will of course be expensive; but it is nevertheless necessary. The only drawback to the Canadian route is that it is of little value for naval purposes, as unfortunately ships cannot yet be sent overland; but for military purposes the route will prove invaluable.—*Broad Arrow.*

TORONTO'S RIFLE RANGE.

The following articles show the nature of Capt. Manley's offence, and also a newspaper opinion of how the situation really stands:—

(From the World, 2nd December.)

The choice of a rifle range seems to have stirred up the military gentlemen to a wonderful degree as will appear by the letters which follow.

CAPTAIN MCLEAN GIVES HIS VERSION.

Editor World.—Your editorial this morning on "The Colonel and the Captain" shows that you have been misinformed both as to military rules and the facts that governed Col. Otter in recommending the Mimico range in preference to that at Mount Denis. I would like to put you right. You say: "Capt. Manley had a perfect to be consulted, and it was not at all creditable to his commanding officer, who is nothing of a shooting man himself, to undertake to speak on behalf of his regiment without consulting his officers and the men in his regiment who are really marksmen and have a genuine interest in the securing of a first-class site for shooting."

On what grounds should Captain Manley have been consulted? He has not been regarded by military men in recent years as an authority on rifle shooting. Much less, why should the men be consulted? This consulting Tommy Atkins every time a corps desires to take any action is becoming too common in the militia. In the best disciplined and consequently the most efficient corps there is none of it. You yourself about eight years ago made sport of it in a humorous article, in which you put in the mouth of a Colonel on the eve of battle. "Is Sergeant _____ ready? Then let the fight commence." The Horse Guards certainly do not believe in seniors consulting their juniors, for there is a case on record where an officer commanding was intoxicated on parade. The senior consulted the other captains before ordering the company to leave the parade. The case went to the Horse Guards, where the senior captain's action was upheld, but he was censured for consulting his juniors. An officer commanding a regiment should be competent to decide all questions in which his regiment is interested. If he cannot he is not fit for his position. He is to a corps what a general manager is to a large business. What would be thought of a manager of a newspaper who consulted all his staff before deciding on what make of press to purchase? The officer commanding the Royal Grenadiers is quite competent to select a range. He is one of the few officers in the militia who has a certificate from the Royal School of Musketry at Hythe. When he was asked by the Major General commanding to report on a site suitable for the Grenadiers we were all, excepting Capt. Manley, perfectly satisfied that his selection would be in the best interests of the regiment. That officer selected Mount Dennis, and for over a year has been talking up that range on every possible occasion. In fact he gave us no peace. I know of no other officer in the city who recommended that range and he has had most of us there. Over a year ago a number of representatives of each of the city corps, the 12th and the Ontario Rifle Association, visited Mount Dennis with Capt. Manley and the agent of the property. After examining it he was the only one who favoured it; all others considered it unsuitable.

Now, as to the facts. The officer commanding the Grenadiers did not consult his officers and men, but he referred the matter to Capt. Bruce, president of the Regimental Rifle Committee, who is recognized as the representative rifleman of the Grenadiers, and who is constantly in touch with all the shots. He instructed (not consulted) Capt. Bruce to visit the different sites and report to him upon them. Capt. Bruce did so and recommended a range on the lake shore. Of the Mt. Dennis site he pointed out that it was objectionable because being in a swampy valley it

was liable to fogs, which would prevent firing at times. It was protected from winds, but more important still, the plateau in the back ground was laid out in lots which sooner or later would have houses upon them. If you will inquire you will find out that the C.O. of the Queen's Own instructed a committee of his officers to report. They recommended the Mimico range. Col. Denison for the Body Guard and Major Mead for the Artillery reported in favour of the same range. As to the shooting men, I believe that it was the famous shot, Sergt. McVittie of the Grenadiers, who first drew the attention of the military authorities to the site selected as being the best about Toronto, and I know that the equally prominent Sergt. Mitchell condemned Mt. Dennis. The question of a site would have been settled long ago if the real estate brokers had been out of the way. They have been booming Mt. Dennis, Hog's Hollow, Scarboro and other sites. The one selected is not in the hands of these people. They have even gone so far as to offer bribes in return for influence. A gentleman was offered a large sum of money if he could get a certain influential officer to advocate a particular site. This is a fact and not a mere rumour.

Allow me to suggest that in future the press should seek their information from those qualified to speak. A captain has no right to speak for his regiment or to write letters to the press without permission. The commanding officer of a regiment or a district is the only one entitled to voice the opinions of those under him. Too frequently newspaper representatives interview privates or non-commissioned officers when they can just as easily get at the commissioned officer. The former are less able to state the policy of a corps than your junior reporter is to say what course you should or will pursue during the coming municipal campaign.

J. B. MCLEAN, Captain,
Adjutant Royal Grenadiers.

A MATTER OF AUTHORITY.

Editor World.—I like to see something of the spirit of justice and manliness in either public or private discussion, and hope you will permit me sufficient space to criticise Capt. Manley's recent remarks, and also your editorial of this morning. In the first place, let me say that Colonels Otter, Dawson and Hamilton gave their report on the rifle range because they were asked to do so by Major-General Herbert. They did not voluntarily take upon themselves that duty—as Capt. Manley did—but did so because the highest military authority asked them. Then Capt. Manley walked down to the City Hall and told the gentlemen of the Parks and Gardens Committee that the opinions Colonels Otter, Dawson and Hamilton had given was of no value, and that it did not voice the views of the volunteers—in other words he publicly told his D.A.G. and his Colonel that they did not know what they were talking about, although since admitting that it was not his duty to intrude himself uninvited on either Colonel Otter or Colonel Dawson. Captain Manley contradicts himself when he says he "was present at the Parks and Gardens meeting at the City Hall, because the officers of the different corps had not had the facts of the case laid before them," for he says: "I was completely ignorant of what was coming up at that meeting, and was astounded to hear a site proposed that I knew nothing of." If he did not know that the rifle range was to be discussed at that meeting, why does he say that he went to it because the officers of the different corps had not had the facts of the rifle range laid before them? He sees that he has offered a gross insult to the D.A.G., and to the military gentlemen whose opinion Major-General Herbert asked, and he is now looking for some excuse. Does he imagine that he improves his position with Colonel Otter, by the soft selder, "I have more confidence in the opinion of Colonel Otter in things military, than in that of any other officer in Toronto," and by attacking his own Colonel, instead of con-

tinuing his attack on Colonel Otter. I trow not, for anyone can see that he insulted the D.A.G., but is now trying to create the impression that his fight is with his own Colonel.

Colonel Dawson got the opinion of the best authority in the Royal Grenadiers, Capt. Bruce, President of the Rifle Association. You are incorrect in saying that Capt. Manley had a right to be consulted. He had no more claim than any other officer or any man who shoots in the regiment. The right to consult rested with the Colonel, and he simply did not think it necessary to consult Captain Manley. But Capt. Manley, with infinite assurance, denies that Colonel Dawson represents his regiment in this matter, because he (Colonel Dawson) did not get the individual opinion of his officers, while he (Capt. Manley) claims that he represents his company (42 men,) although he could not have got their individual opinion, for he admits that he knew nothing of the proposed site, and if he knew nothing about it, he could not have got the opinion of his company about it.

In reply to your strictures, I would say that there is nothing of the high and mighty in Colonel Dawson, but on the contrary if he has a fault it is that he errs on the side of good nature, and I am sure his officers will stand beside him in this matter.

Let me say in concluding, that this letter has been written without the knowledge of any of the gentlemen interested.

LXXX.

COL. DAWSON SATISFIED.

Ald. Score yesterday received the following letter from Col. Dawson of the Grenadiers :

With reference to the proposed site for the rifle range : In the *Mail* of Friday last, the 27th Nov., Capt. Manley is reported as saying to your committee : "The commanding officer of the Royal Grenadiers was not satisfied with the site," also "that Col. Dawson had not heard of it." Now, I beg to say that Capt. Manley had no authority for making these statements, as on the contrary I have always been in favour of a lake range, and expressed this opinion some time ago in the committee appointed by the Major-General commanding the militia to settle upon a site. On this committee I was representing the Royal Grenadiers.

(From the News, 27th November)

The Mayor and Ald. Score have determined that the new ranges must be located on the lake shore west of Mimico. Col. Otter has apparently joined the gentlemen named in an effort to secure the same result. But, on the other hand Capt. Manley, who declares he speaks for the men who practice on the ranges, says the selection is not suitable. In the first place the site chosen is a long way off, being 13 miles distant, and can only be reached by one line of railway, and that running from the Union Station. To reach the place in question most of the volunteers would require to travel by street car to the station, and then pay fare by rail to the ranges, the lowest estimate for the latter being 12c for the round trip. Here then is a total of at least 15c for fares every time a rifleman visits the ranges.

Another objection is that the St. Catharines and Niagara Central Railway Company has already registered plans for a line running through the site chosen. As soon as the railway is built the ranges will be rendered useless. Then again, there is an immense lake traffic during the season when shooting is on to and from Toronto to Oakville and Hamilton. Every time a shot is fired those on the pleasure craft near the shore will be endangered. The distance, difficulty of access, and the fact that the public safety would be endangered by the use of the ranges are all against them. Under these circumstances it cannot but be expected that the volunteers will vote down the by-law to raise the money required to purchase the site picked upon.

What will result? The present ranges will be retained for another year and perhaps longer, and this is just what Col. Otter desires. That gentleman has always opposed,

bitterly opposed, the removal of the ranges from their present location, and it is not inconceivable that he has given his apparent sanction to the selection of the Mimico site hoping that its unsuitability will be so apparent as to ensure the retention of the present one, at least for a time.

(From the World, 30th Nov.)

Editor World: My name has been freely used in the press in connection with the rifle range question. As false impressions have been conveyed, let me, much against my inclination, "rush into print" to explain my position.

In the first place, it matters not a straw to me where the range may be located. I only desire to see the volunteers of Toronto supplied with a range that they can enjoy forever; and I defy anyone to prove that I ever approached any of the committee in favour of any particular locality. I am reported to have said that Col. Otter does not voice the opinion of the volunteers of the city. As this may be misconstrued, let me say that I have more confidence in the opinion of Col. Otter in things military than in that of any other officer in Toronto. I mean to say, however, that up to the present, as their views have not been obtained on the question, he does not and can not voice their opinions. I may be bold enough to say that my experience in rifle shooting and on rifle ranges entitled me to an opinion in this matter. Such was never asked, and I never advanced it, to any of those on the committee. If the officers of the different corps had been called together, and all the facts of the case laid before them, I should not have been present at the Parks and Gardens meeting at the City Hall. I was completely ignorant of what was coming up at that meeting and was astounded to hear a site proposed that I knew nothing of. I stated that Col. Dawson did not approve of the range. How could he? He had never seen it, and I am almost certain that none of his officers, and very few of his men, had even heard of the exact locality. Col. Dawson states in the *Globe* that before going to the meeting I should have consulted him or Col. Otter. What about? As I said before, I did not know what was forthcoming. It was not my duty, at any rate, to intrude myself uninvited on either Col. Otter or Col. Dawson. My commanding officer says he always preferred a lake range. So have I, provided we can obtain one that will not be objected to on the question of safety, and one easy and cheap of access. Before the question can be settled all the facts bearing on the matter should be submitted. Let me state a few points for example: How long will it take to go to the several proposed ranges? Can at least 1200 yards be obtained at any? What will be the fare? What about the price? These, Mr. Editor, are vital questions and can be answered before a choice is made. Why do I speak of 1200yds? I may be asked. Considering the great improvements being made in the English rifles, such a distance will soon be necessary on any well-equipped range; but if we cannot obtain it we must do without it. It is said great secrecy was necessary on account of land speculation. These men must submit to arbitration, and cannot get one cent more than their land is worth. I am stated to have made a threat about the voting down of the by-law if submitted. I merely stated that it would be well before submitting it, to have the volunteers behind the back of the committee; in other words, let them know the answers of the above questions. Finally, as far as I am personally concerned, and I voice the sentiments of at least 42 non-commissioned officers and men of the Royal Grenadiers, I am ready to support the best range, and if on the basis I have suggested, it shall be found that the range proposed at the Parks and Gardens Committee meeting be the best available, I shall be only too glad to hold up both hands and voice in its favour.

I trust that the importance of the case may excuse the freedom I have taken with your columns.

FRED E. MANLEY, Capt., Royal Grenadiers.

TORONTO.

Q. O. R. AMATEUR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of those interested was held in the Sergeants' Mess Room, on Thursday evening, 3rd December, and to judge by the enthusiasm of the number present, the success of the association is assured. It has been decided to take up hockey for the winter season, and at the same time inaugurate a series of weekly tramps. The election of officers resulted as follows:—Honorary President, Lt.-Col. Hamilton; President, Capt. J. C. McGee; Vice-President, Col.-Sergt. G. Higinbotham; Secretary, Sergt. J. G. Langton; Treasurer, Sergt. J. Collins; Captain, Lieut. H. F. Wyatt; Committee: Lieut. Barker, "K" Co., Sergt. Duncan, "A" Co., Pte. Cramp, "B" Co., Sergt. Burns, "C" Co., Sergt. Thompson, "D" Co., Sergt. Pearson, "E" Co., Pte. Davison, "F" Co., Corp. Routh, "G" Co., Col.-Sergt. Boyd, "H" Co., Pte. Garvin, "I" Co., Sergt. Woods, Buglers. It was decided to enter the Ontario Hockey Association, and to enter a team in the senior series.

In a previous number, I suggested competitions between the different city regiments, and I would again suggest that the Queen's Own try and arrange with some of the city battalions for a series of matches with the following teams: Hockey, Curling, Revolver, and where practicable, Morris Tube Rifle match.

I hear that the Grenadiers are desirous of getting on a curling match with the Q.O.R., and hope that negotiations may be successfully arranged. To judge from the energy displayed on all sides, I think the Queen's Own are going to be anything but idle during the winter season.

THE REVOLVER.

"The President and members of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Revolver Association request the pleasure of your company at the Second Annual Competition, to be held at the Drill Hall, Friday evening, 4th Dec., 1891."

Such was the invitation found awaiting my arrival down town the other morning. I confess to feeling rather surprised at holding such a match in such a place, and the more I marvelled the further I got from any conclusion, except that when Friday night came I would be on hand to see how this new idea would be accepted.

Quite a few invitations must have been sent out, to judge from the crowd of spectators and competitors who were present during the evening. The competition which started at eight o'clock was not finished until 1 p.m. Following is the result of the competition:

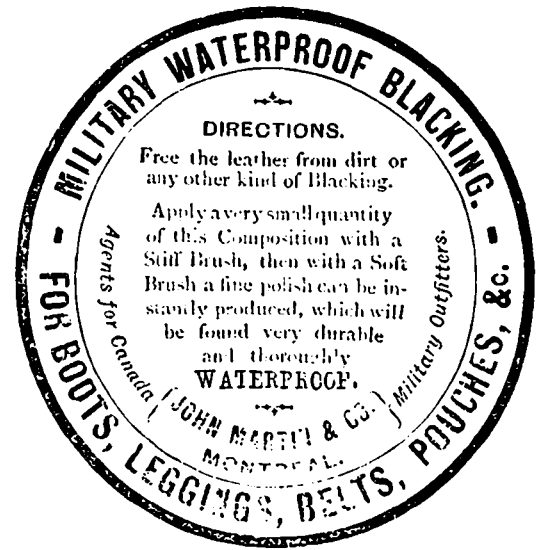
Match I.—Open to all members of the association; range, 25 yards; position, standing, off-hand; revolver, any pattern not exceeding .45 calibre and 7½ in. barrel; rounds, seven; entries limited to five scores; highest score to count.

1. Sergt McLaren, Q. O. R.	38
2. Capt. Mercer, Q. O. R.	38
3. Sergt. Thompson, 12th.	38
4. Lieut. Crean, Q. O. R.	37
5. P. C. McArthur, T. P. F.	35
6. Staff-Sergt. Mitchell, R. G.	33
Colour-Sergt. Agnew, Q. O. R.	32
Colour-Sergt. Crooks, Q. O. R.	32
Sergt. Bayley, Q. O. R.	32
Staff-Sergt. Harp, Q. O. R.	31
Sergt. Brooks, R. G.	31
Staff-Sergt. Ashall, Q. O. R.	31

Match II.—Aggregate of five scores in match I to count.

Sergt. McLaren, Q. O. R.	165
Sergt. Thompson, 12th.	159
Sergt. Mitchell, R. G.	149
Lieut. Crean, Q. O. R.	148

Match III.—Team competition between five officers, non-commissioned officers and men of any revolver association. Entrance fee per team, \$1. Conditions same as in No. 1 match, except that entries are limited to one score for each competitor, of seven rounds. In this five teams



were entered, viz.:—Officers of the Q. O. R., first sergeants of the Q. O. R., second sergeants of the Q. O. R., the Toronto Police Force, and the Royal Grenadiers. The score stood:—

Officers, Q. O. R. (1st)	133
Second Sergeants, Q. O. R.	114
Toronto Police Force	86
Grenadiers (2nd)	94

Through the kindness of Capt. Pellatt, President of the association, three electric lights were placed in positions where most benefit could be derived from them; these together with the gas gave all the light desirable. Capt. Pellatt tendered a light repast in the orderly room to invited guests and competitors which was heartily enjoyed by all. Great credit is due to the following committee for their efforts in making the event such a success:—President, Capt. Pellatt; vice-president, Capt. Mercer; secretary-treasurer, Colour-Sergt. N. B. Sanson; executive, Lieut. Rennie, Staff-Sergt. Ashall, Staff-Sergt. Harp.

Rumour has it that the association intend having another competition in January. I hope this proves true as the interest increases with each competition, and it will result in a complete revolution of revolver shooting during the coming summer.

D Co., Q. O. R., held a meeting in their armoury last Wednesday evening to make arrangements for their annual dinner, which they claim will eclipse all previous ones ever given by them.

BRECH-BLOCK.

THE MILITARY RIFLE LEAGUE.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE.—In the course of a few weeks a meeting of the Council of the Canadian M. R. L. will probably be called to consider the programme for the year, and, with a view to ventilating the opinions of those interested in the welfare of the League, I venture to make the following suggestions in the hope that others may come forward, either to support my suggestions or give expression to other ideas. I would suggest that the Council consider the advisability of doing away with the cup prizes and in their place substitute three or four series of money prizes to be competed for at Ottawa by teams and individuals representing the battalions and associations entered in the League. Assuming an entry of a hundred teams at ten dollars and the expenses of management say three hundred, this would give seven hundred dollars to be competed for, which might be apportioned in some such way as this:

Team prizes in Snider Aggregate	\$75 to \$15	\$300
Individual prizes	20 to 5	150
Individual prizes in Grand Aggregate,	20 to 5	150
And say a Nursery series		100

Badges might be given to the highest scorers in each team, but let us have no more championship prizes unless in connection with the matches at Ottawa. PROGRESS.

CHAS. SWIFT, BOOTMAKER

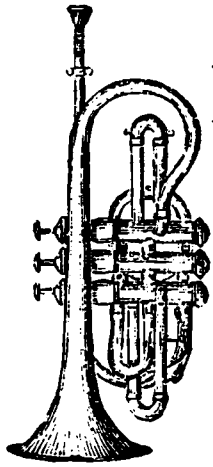
To the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada,

98 CHURCH STREET, TORONTO.

Officers' Walking and Riding Boots to order,
Regimental Leggings a Specialty.
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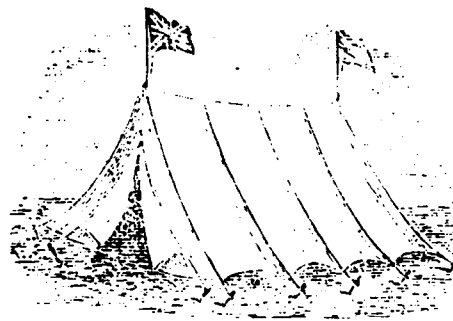
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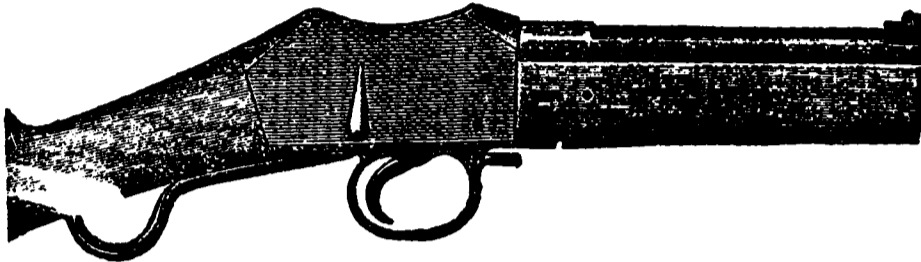
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