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MILITARY GAZETTE

SUCCESSOR TO THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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NEWS OF THE SERVICE.

Our readers are respectfully requested to contribute promptly to this department all items of Military News affecting their own corps, districts or friends, coming under their notice. Unless we are assisted in this way we cannot make this department as complete as we would desire. Remember that all the doings of every corps are of general interest throughout the entire militia force. You can mail a large package of manuscript, in an unsealed envelope, for one cent. At any rate, forward copies of your local papers with all references to your corps and your comrades. Address,

EDITOR CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE,
P.O. Box 2179, Montreal, Que.

RE-ORGANIZING THE P. W. O. R., KINGSTON, Feb. 25.

CAPT. MAXSE, of the Coldstream Guards, has been a visitor in the city during several days past and was dined by Lieut.-Col. Cotton, D.A.G., and also by Major Drury and officers of "A" Field Battery, R.C.A. The visitor has gone to Toronto to-day. Capt. Maxse is a military writer of acknowledged ability. His latest production is an article entitled "Our Military Problem," published in the January issue of *The National Review*.

A meeting of the officers and sergeants of the 14th Battalion was held on Thursday evening last, when different matters in connection with the re-organization of the corps were discussed. The non-coms were instructed as to what will be required of them under the new order of things, and were posted in their new duties. They were also instructed to begin recruiting for their different sections. Another meeting is to be held this week, when arrangements for the work of filling up the four new companies will be completed. All concerned are going into the work with a vigor that speaks well for the success of the re-organized regiment, and ere the close of the drill season of 1896 Kingston will justly be able to boast, it is hoped, that she possesses a rifle corps that is second to none in Canada.

In some inconceivable manner, in my last letter to *THE GAZETTE*, in writing of the deputation that went to Ottawa to urge upon the Government the necessity for erecting a new drill shed at Kingston, one sentence was

given a meaning entirely different to that intended. The intention was to state that the deputation was accompanied by Hon. Senator Sullivan, J. H. Metcalfe, M.P.; H. A. Calvin, M.P.; Lieut.-Col. Smith, of the 14th Battalion, P.W.O.R., etc. Instead of this, however, the sentence read " . . . Lieut.-Col. Smith, late of the 14th Battalion." No slight was intended to Lieut.-Col. Smith, who is the most popular officer in the battalion, with both officers and men, and deservedly so. Neither was it intended, nor desired to convey the impression that Lieut.-Col. Smith had severed his connection with the corps. "Vedette" would not knowingly or willingly place the officer named in a false light, with regard to his connection with his command, and takes this, the earliest opportunity, of correcting the error, which was as unintentional as it was regrettable.

Several men have been discharged from "A" Battery for intemperance recently.

A deserter from "A" Battery, named Day, gave himself up at the Citadel in Quebec a few days ago. Br. McBeth and Br. Compton were sent to escort the prisoner to this city, where they arrived with their man in secure custody. He had, it appears, enlisted in an American regular regiment, upon making his way across the border, but "Uncle Sam's" service did not agree with him, and he deserted from the Stars and Stripes. He was tried by Court Martial on the day following his arrival at Tete du Pont barracks. Driver Turner, who deserted from the battery last July, has also surrendered.

Major Wood, of the London Field Battery, is in the city and will take a three months' course at the Royal Military College, to qualify for the command of his corps, in succession to Lieut.-Col. Peters.

Dr. H. J. Saunders, for 23 years surgeon to the Kingston Field Battery, died here on Wednesday morning last. He was buried with military honors, the remains being conveyed to the cemetery on the carriage

of one of the guns of "A" Battery, the band of the 14th Battalion playing funeral marches, and a firing-party of 50 cadets from the Royal Military College, under Capt. English, turning out to pay the last tribute of respect. The local Masonic, Sons of England, and Foresters societies, as well as the students and professors of Queen's University, governors of the General Hospital, and an immense assemblage of citizens also attended. Rev. Dean Smith, rector, and Rev. G. R. Beamish, curate, of St. George's Cathedral, conducted the service. Major Drennan, of the Kingston Field Battery, was in charge of the military and the fraternal societies.

VEDETTE.

DOINGS AT HEADQUARTERS.

OTTAWA, Feb. 29.

Capt. Lee, R.A., lectured on "Waterloo" last Saturday night. Maj.-Gen. Gascoigne presided over a full house, and the lecturer held his audience throughout. Capt. Lee is an able and fluent speaker, the photographs were excellent, and everyone present was delighted.

The Guards and 43rd defeated the Vics. and Royal Scots curling at the Rideau Rink Tuesday evening last. The Ottawa soldiers won by 13 points.

GUARDS,	43RD.
Capt. P. B. Taylor.	Col. Wright
Col. Hodgins.	Lieut. Boville.
Capt. J. B. Tyrrell.	Capt. Sutherland
Major A. L. Jarvis (skip).	Major Sherwood (skip)

Every soldier takes an interest in the ammunition question. We trust before the Government adopts any special explosive for cartridges it will be tried and tested thoroughly.

Sergt. Holmes, musketry instructor, has his classes well attended twice a week both by officers and men.

The citizens of Ottawa are deeply interested in the raising of two new companies for the 43rd Regiment. A deputation will wait on the Minister of Militia next week.

CAPT. GAUDET RETURNS.

QUEBEC, Feb. 22.

THE R. C. A. Quadrille Club gave another of their fortnightly dances in the Citadel on the evening of the 7th inst, which, as on former occasions, proved very enjoyable to those in attendance. Representatives from the Field and Garrison Artillery were present as well as a number of civilians. The music was furnished by Bandsman Wallis. The duties of floor manager were well carried out by Corp'l. Jordan.

Major B. A. Scott, of the 61st Battalion, has returned to Roberval after spending a couple of weeks in the city.

Mr. G. G. Rose, of the Unattached List, has been in the city for a few days and had the privileges of the Garrison Club extended to him during his visit.

The 8th Royal Rifles will commence their annual training on Tuesday, the 3rd of March. Clothing and accoutrements will be issued on the evenings of the 24th, 25th and 26th inst, one company from the Right and one from the Left Half Battalion each evening. On Friday, March 6, the commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. G. R. White, will inspect the Battalion.

It is reported that Mr. A. E. Swift will take a commission in the 8th Royal Rifles, and that he will be gazetted in the near future. Capt. O. B. C. Richardson has resigned and has made the transfer to Capt. H. J. Lamb.

The following letter which speaks for itself was received by Capt. O. C. Pelletier, R.C.A., dated Quebec, Feb. 3rd, 1896:

DEAR SIR,—The firemen of No. 8 Fire Station wish to express their thanks for the delicate attention of the members of the R.C.A. toward the ice monument erected by us in honor of the brave and courageous Short and Wallick, on the same ground where these two heroes fell victims to their duty. We beg you to accept for yourself and every member of the R.C.A. our most sincere thanks for the fine demonstration made in honor of those two braves on the day of the carnival drive. At the same time we beg you to convey to the members of the R.C.A. Snow Shoe Club our thanks for the coming and laying of a crown of immortelles at the feet of their late brothers in arms, and to assure them that this precious tribute of homage will be carefully kept by us in honor of these two heroes, and as a token of respect for and souvenir of the members of the R.C.A. who only wait the occasion to prove the same courage as shown by Short and Wallick if called on.

Yours devotedly,

The Firemen of No. 8 Fire Station.

Capt. F. M. Gaudet, who succeeded the late Lieut.-Col. Prevost as superintendent of the Government Cartridge Factory, has assumed his duties. Since his appointment Capt. Gaudet has been in England studying the manufacture of ammunition, and also made enquiries concerning smokeless powder.

Capt. W. J. Ray, 8th Royal Rifles, was entertained at a dinner at the Garrison

Club on Saturday evening, the 15th inst., by his many friends, on the occasion of his approaching departure for England to be married to a young lady well known in Quebec society.

M. J. H. C. Ogilvy, of the Royal Canadian Artillery, who was instrumental in getting up the Ladies' Minstrels, an entertainment which took place at the Academy of Music on the 18th inst., is deserving of great credit for the manner in which it was presented and the success of the same. Under his management the audience enjoyed a good evening's entertainment. He was ably assisted by Master Gunner Lavie, of the same corps, and by Mr. Joseph Vezina as musical director.

The School of Instruction, under Capt. T. Benson, R.C.A., is still at work, and battalion drill will shortly be taken up. The school will probably last for another three weeks or a month.

Capt. W. J. Ray was the recipient from the Quebec Snow Shoe Club, of which he is president, of an illuminated address, accompanied by a purse containing \$100 in gold. The address was read by Major J. Secretan Dunbar, vice-president of the club.

PATROL.

WHICH ARE THE BEST TROOPS?

HALIFAX, Feb. 24.

A STATEMENT published in The Toronto Mail and Empire of February 8, makes Maj.-Gen. Gascoigne say, when receiving the deputation from Toronto which was urging the establishment of another regiment of artillery: "There is no question that I look upon the Toronto regiments as the best troops I have. There is no doubt about that." Surely the G.O.C. did not use these words, for, so far, his knowledge is limited to the few ceremonial parades which he has inspected in Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa, and I feel quite sure, unless he intends, like his predecessor, to ignore the troops in the Maritime Provinces, in view of the efficiency returns which have been published for the past seven years, he would certainly hesitate before making such a statement. Permit me to ask of what use is it having annual inspections conducted on a competitive principle, publishing the number of marks obtained, and then ignoring those figures the moment it seems necessary to say "nice things." This is a matter in which the old proverb, "Be just before you are generous," still holds good.

The professors and students of Dalhousie College are talking of organizing two companies of 50 each, and it is expected that they will apply to be attached to the 63rd Halifax Rifles. It is said that the O.C. 63rd favors the idea of receiving them as Nos. 7 and 8 companies of his corps. The city brigade will receive them with open arms—it would puzzle us to receive them with any other kind of arms just now, for I

believe there is not a spare rifle in the district. In fact, I am sure there's not.

On the 10th inst. No. 3 Co. C.A. opened their new club rooms by giving an At Home to their friends to the number of about 120. The rooms were neatly decorated with bunting, etc., and the many trophies won by this company were tastefully arranged on the large billiard table, and were much admired by all. In addition to the company officers, the commanding officers, the adjutant and paymaster were present during the early part of the entertainment. Speeches, songs, dances, etc., were given in abundance and of the best quality, and the same must be said of the refreshments, pipes, tobacco and cigars which were served to all hands.

GRAVELCRUSHER.

A REGIMENTAL WHIST PARTY.

LONDON, Feb. 28.

The annual entertainment of the 7th Fusiliers took the form of a progressive whist party. The invited guests numbered ninety-six, and were duly entertained in the new regimental mess rooms on Richmond street. There were thirty hands of whist played, and keen and sharp was the competition. Dr. English succeeded in carrying off first-prize, a handsome gold-headed cane, whilst Lieut.-Col. Smith, D.A.G., won the other prize, a clay pipe and two plugs baccy, after which the guests were entertained at a nicely arranged supper, and the jollity kept up until the small hours. The arrangements, which were perfect, were carried out by a committee consisting of Major Hayes and Captains Groves and Graham. The success and harmony of this last party has encouraged the officers and they intend repeating the entertainment after the Lent season.

The 7th are now commencing their company drill, preparing for their visit to Hamilton on the 24th of May, and expect to turn out in full strength on that occasion.

MILITARY INSTITUTE.

The annual meeting of the Montreal Military Institute was held last week, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Major Labelle; first vice-president, Lieut.-Col. Massey; second vice-president, Major Busted; third vice-president, Major Blaiklock; sec.-treasurer, Major C. W. Radiger; committee, Lieut.-Col. Mattice, Major De Trois Maisons, 85th; Surgeon Spier, cavalry; Capt. Costigan, M.F.B.; Capt. Mitchell, 6th Fus.; Capt. Bond, 1st P.W.R.; Capt. Cameron, 5th R.S.; Major Reid, 2nd Batt. C.G.A., and Capt. Pelletier, 65th.

During the year 1895 twenty-three non-commissioned officers were promoted to combatant commissions in the British Army. In 1894 there were twenty-four commissions given from the ranks, in 1893, eighteen; in 1892, twelve; in 1891, twelve, and in 1890, sixteen.

DOMINION RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

WHAT THEY DID AT THE ANNUAL MEETING—THE NEW MAJOR-GENERAL A FRIEND OF RIFLE SHOOTING—SAYS HE WILL DEVOTE SPECIAL ATTENTION TO MUSKETRY.

THE twenty-eighth annual meeting of the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association was held in the Railways and Canals Committee Room, House of Commons, Ottawa, on Wednesday last, Lieut.-Col., the Hon. J. M. Gibson, president, in the chair, and amongst those present were His Excellency Lord Aberdeen, Capt. Sinclair, Governor-General's secretary; Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Sir Charles Tupper, Hon. Alphonse Desjardins, Minister of Militia; Col. Panet, Deputy Minister; Maj.-Gen. Gascoigne, Lieut.-Col. Thomas Bacon, secretary; Lieut.-Col. J. Macpherson, treasurer; Lieut.-Cols. J. Pennington Macpherson, Irwin, Hon. M. Aylmer, John Tilton, Hon. E. G. Prior, A.D.C.; H. R. Smith, A.D.C.; Fred Massey, George R. Starke, John Hood, Fred M. Cole, William White, Joshua Wright, J. H. Burland, C. J. Macdonald, Edwin C. Kaulbach, M.P.; Cotton, D.A.G.; Majors Sam Hughes, M.P.; J. J. Mason, J. M. Delamere, W. M. Blaiklock, E. B. Ibbotson, A. P. Sherwood, R. McLennan, M.P.; J. A. McGillivray, M.P.; James Sutherland, M.P.; E. B. Busted, J. Walsh, H. F. Perley; Capt. H. H. Gray, S. Maynard Rogers, J. B. MacLean, A. D. Cartwright, Hon. T. R. McInnes, British Columbia; Hon. Charles A. Boulton, Manitoba; Hon. L. H. Davies, M.P.; Hon. A. H. Gillmor, M.P.; Andrew Haslam, M.P.; James Somerville, M.P.; James N. Grieve, M.P.; Thomas Earle, M.P.; Fred W. Borden, M.P.; James McShane, M.P.; J. D. Hazen, M.P.

Lieut.-Col. Gibson, in opening the meeting, said: "We are glad to see so good an attendance of representatives of the association from different parts of the Dominion, and especially glad that we are honored with the presence of His Excellency the Governor-General, who has been in the habit of attending this meeting and showing the interest he entertains for the association and its operations. We are also honored to-day by the presence of Sir Charles Tupper (applause) who, I am sure, we all join in heartily welcoming to this meeting, and who, I have no doubt, has had opportunities at Bisley for forming a fair estimate of the importance of the operations of the Dominion Rifle Association. He is now at headquarters, and we hope to hear what he has to say to us. I have also pleasure in welcoming the new Minister of Militia. They come and go so rapidly we can hardly keep track of them, and no sooner have we become attached to one than we find his place taken by someone else. I am not well acquainted with the present Minister, but, in common with you all, I learned to form a high opinion of his

predecessor (applause) and it is no disparagement to say I regretted to hear he was called to another, though perhaps more important, department of the public service. The past year has been one of almost unprecedented success in the history of this association—in some respects at least. The reports will speak for themselves, and I will only allude to one or two features which justify us in feeling extremely well satisfied with the position we occupy to-day. The annual fall meeting of the association was probably the best it ever had. The various matches went off on time, better shooting was never made at any previous meeting, and on the whole the competitors never went home

IN A MORE CONTENTED FRAME of mind than from the meeting of 1895. It is a most difficult undertaking to hold a meeting of competitors from all over the Dominion, and find them all satisfied. There is, perhaps, no class in which there is a larger number of kickers than practical riflemen. (Laughter.) Even if they have no grievance they can find something to do duty for the time, and so it is a matter for congratulation that no grievances were found at the last meeting. You have before you the report of Major Markham, who commanded the team at Bisley. That shows a splendid record in a general way. The Kolapore match was not won by Canadians. It was shot in extremely rough weather, the strong element of chance entered into the conditions, and there was not so favorable an opportunity for a comparative test as we would have liked. The scores made, however, by the Canadian team were very considerable. They were distanced by not a very large number of points, and we have nothing to be ashamed of. But if she did not win that trophy Canada won a trophy possessed of greater significance than the Kolapore Cup; I refer to Her Majesty's Prize. (Applause.) I don't propose to do more than briefly state that without exception, without distinction, I may say among all classes in this Dominion the announcement that that great prize had been won by a Canadian was received with unbounded satisfaction. I might use a stronger term. The demonstrations which took place at many points in the Dominion showed that satisfaction is not the word to express the feeling of the people. These facts, while satisfactory to us as an association, go a long way to justify its continuance, and to justify the important aid and assistance which we are from year to year deriving from the Dominion Government in carrying on our operations. What has been accomplished by

the association in past years, and especially what we are enabled on the present occasion to present as the record of the association during last year, will render it unlikely and impossible that there should be anything like the intention or possibility of withdrawing that support which we have been receiving in the past. In alluding to the distinguished gentlemen present I should have

REFERRED TO THE NEW GENERAL

who has come among us (applause) and who we are glad to welcome. I express the feeling of militiamen generally when I state that on all hands there is not only a willingness but a strong disposition to accord to him the warmest welcome that is consistent on our part. He has important duties to fulfil; he has responsibilities which only he himself can appreciate, and most important among these is the re-arming of the forces. We have heard a good deal of the new rifle. We who are experienced shots could spend a week discussing that. However, the General will take the opportunity of telling us all he will feel at liberty to say about this most important matter. I beg to move the adoption of the reports."

Lieut.-Col. Massey, Montreal, seconded the motion, which was carried.

Maj.-Gen. Gascoigne, who was received with hearty applause, said: "A very pleasant duty has been given to me, but before I touch on that I think you would like to hear a few observations from me. Gentlemen, of course I have had a great deal to learn since I came here, and in my short sojourn I have had much to occupy my attention. These two association meetings coming so close together it is difficult for me to study them as I should. Yesterday the Artillery Association did me the honor of asking me to be present, and to-day I am here. But I have heard this much about this Rifle Association: that it is practically the Wimbledon or Bisley of Canada (Hear, hear), and, therefore, that you are not here only or entirely to encourage 'pot hunting' by the winning of prizes, but really to encourage better rifle shooting on the part of the military forces of Canada. As such I shall give it my very warmest support. Gentlemen, you heard something said of the re-arming of the militia. Well, I wish I was in a position to give you any real, definite information on that point, but I will say this, that you, as well as myself, have read an enormous deal in the newspapers about the new rifle. A great deal I have read I can contradict, as it is quite inaccurate. It seems to me always that where people write in the papers anonymously men seem to lose the modesty which attaches to the use of their names. I read a great number of statements of fact, not 'I think,' or 'I am of opinion,' but 'I know,' so-and-so. Many of these statements I know from the knowledge of experts to be altogether erroneous. One thing, also I wish to speak about here, be-

cause it is a good opportunity: I see in many papers it was rather hinted at that no rifle, however delicate, that might be put into the hands of Canadian militiamen would be serviceable if they were not thoroughly competent to look after it. Many papers speak of 'our boys' as 'strongly intellectual,' and so forth, and of putting rifles into hands that could not look after them, contrasting the rural battalions. Comparisons are odious, and so is comparing Tommy Atkins and the rural militia. I must admit that the English

MR. ATKINS OF TO-DAY

is a very different man from the Tommy Atkins that I and many of you first served with. What with short service, public opinion, and school boards, Private Thomas Atkins is highly intellectual and can understand anything. I will grant you he is a dense, stupid man, while the Canadian militiamen is a natural born genius. The English private serves seven years, during which he is constantly under the supervision of highly trained officers and non-commissioned officers. He is not only trained, but his officers see that after all matters of shooting the rifle is carefully taken care of and cleaned. Take the case of the rural militia genius. During these seven years he comes out for about 24 days, or, giving him the full time, for 36 days and in the meantime what becomes of his rifle? Where is it put? Who looks after it? I want to impress on you that however great the natural genius of a man, there is nothing else but training which will bring his talents to perfection. However ready to seize all points and assist with my recommendation, I had not only to consider the best rifle, but the best suited weapon for the whole force. In my humble opinion all that human wisdom could do was done by the Government in sending an officer of Col. Lake's experience to England, an officer not only of experience, but of knowledge of the needs and weaknesses of the Canadian militia. In sending him to England to discuss with the War Office, the best means of

RE-ARMING THE MILITIA,

I think the Government has acted in your highest interest. Leaving that, I come to this year's training. The Government has been exceedingly good to me in allowing every man to come out for this year's training (applause), and I hope not for this year, but for every year. I am sure all of you militiamen will show your appreciation of this by making this year's training the best year's training ever held. I am pleased to have the opportunity of telling you that the platform of my term of office is musketry, musketry, musketry, everywhere. I do not want by that to have a couple of days snatched for it when the General comes down. I shall judge of the efficiency and proficiency of camps not only in shooting, but in the care of the rifle, and I mean to make my geniuses make something of them-

selves at the end of their twelve days training, not only as to shooting, but as to the care of their rifles. (Applause). I come to the duty which has been given to me of proposing this resolution of thanks to His Excellency, who I know devotes his whole time to the good of the country:

That the thanks of this association be tendered to His Excellency the Governor General for his presence here to-day, and for his liberal contribution of \$500 to last year's prize list." (Applause).

Sir Mackenzie Bowell, who seconded the motion, said: "I had not the pleasure of hearing the full remarks made by Gen. Gascoigne. I have, however, great pleasure in seconding the resolution proposed by the General, and do so with greater pleasure from the personal knowledge I have, not only of the anxiety but constant thought which His Excellency gives to this great question, to draw closer the bonds between this and the Mother Country. The General's practical remarks will meet with the approbation of all who hear him. There may be differences as to what should be done as to camps, drills, shooting, etc., but whatever the differences may be the one idea we all have is to make them as efficient as possible. I hope in the future the efficiency will meet all the demands the General may make. We, as a Government, have many responsibilities, but not any of our energies or any money that may be spent can be better spent than in carrying out the General's practical suggestions. I know that he

HAS A THOROUGH KNOWLEDGE OF HIS DUTIES,

and it requires a man who understands, not only his duties as a soldier, but the genius of the people he is among. We are here a democratic people, and our volunteer force partakes of that character, and they have to be treated in a different manner to those countries where people do not take upon themselves voluntarily the same duties. We are deeply attached to the monarchy, but we are also thoroughly democratic. That fact alone will suggest itself to the General and to anyone who understands that the British subject has the right to think for himself and does so, and expresses himself freely. The Government are found fault with, but I can say that all that can be done for your assistance that our duties and the revenues of the country permit of will be done to aid the militia forces of Canada." (Cheers).

Lieut.-Col. Gibson said he was sure there would be no differences of opinion in regard to this resolution. There was no higher ambition on the part of riflemen at the annual meeting than to be partakers in the Governor-General's bounty. The large cash donation received yearly from His Excellency was divided into three prizes, known as the Governor-General's prizes, and to win one of these, and, if possible, the first,

was the aim of every competitor. The association would be glad if His Excellency would visit them on the common, as well as in that meeting. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was passed by a standing vote, amid applause.

His Excellency, Lord Aberdeen, received a cordial welcome on rising to reply. He said: "I feel very sensible of the extreme kindness with which this proposal has been brought forward and adopted. We have already been reminded that we have a novel feature at this meeting in more ways than one. We welcome a new General and a new Minister of Militia, and we have with us an old friend whom we welcome after a considerable absence. I refer to Sir Charles Tupper, Bart. (Hear, hear.) But with regard to the Governor-General, like the poorer section of the community, he is always with you, and cannot expect to receive or excite the same interest as if he could come in some sense entirely by way of a surprise. I do not refer to any Governor-General in particular, but to the institution. Nevertheless I consider it a particular pleasure and a duty to be present on such an occasion as this, and with regard to the kind words of the chairman as to attendance at the annual meets, I think no Governor-General's education can be complete till he has had the pleasure of attending such a national event. While Lieut.-Col. Gibson was speaking I was listening with particular attention for any allusion he might make as to the date of the annual gathering, as I look forward to be present at it whether within measurable or immeasurable distance. I must refer, by way of endorsement, to the allusion of Maj.-Gen. Gascoigne, to this association not being a prize-hunting association. I think that opinion will only be confirmed and strengthened the more he sees of this association. Although not a military man, I have been impressed by the large extent to which this association seems to be imbued by patriotic zeal for the increasing and maintaining of the standard of efficiency among the volunteer forces of this Dominion. This is as it ought to be, for if rifle-shooting were to be looked upon as a mere pastime the good of the association might be lost sight of. The General has also been good enough to refer kindly to any personal interest I may have been able to display in the Canadian militia, and I trust I always shall. In everything relating to the militia I have benefitted greatly by the extensive military knowledge of my late secretary, Mr. Arthur Gordon, who took no interest in anything more than in matters connected with the militia forces. I regret that I have lost his services through his return home on account of Mrs. Gordon's ill-health. I have been fortunate in securing the assistance of such an efficient officer as Capt. Sinclair. Being a Scotchman, I can appreciate the chairman's reference to

the Governor-General's prize. He told you of what has been done in the past, while being

SILENT AS TO THE FUTURE;

but a nod is as good as a wink. It was impossible to avoid the inference that a repetition of the past would be satisfactory. So that there can be no doubt whatever about the matter I will say now that it is my intention to give a similar amount this year. (Applause.) With hearty good wishes for the continued well-being of this great national and patriotic association, I must again thank you, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, for your kindness to me." (Cheers.)

Major Sam Hughes, M. P., Lindsay, moved :

That the association welcomes with much pleasure the presence of Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., M.P., Secretary of State, who has been for many years a warm and useful friend of the association, smoothing the way for the combatants of the Canadian team, and by every means in his power at all times has enhanced the enjoyment and good success of the team.

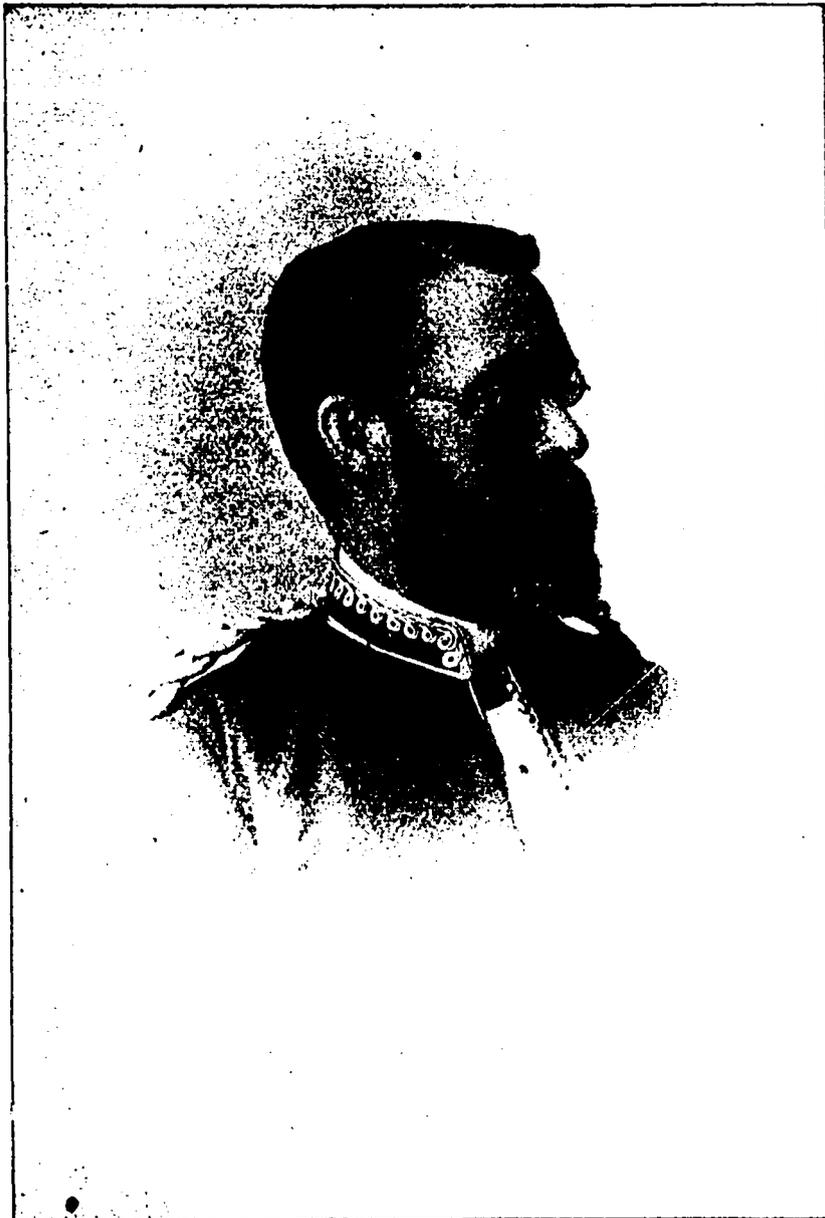
In the course of his remarks Major Hughes said: "In one sense I regret that Sir Charles Tupper's departure from the Old Land will deprive us of those services for which we thank him. But I hope in Canada he will be of use to us in other ways. To him and to other men like him in the Dominion I attribute the spirit of loyalty shown by Canada and other lands in the recent troublesome times the Empire has passed through. When we find that without one dissenting voice Canada was ready to stand by the Old Land in her troubles, I feel it is largely due to the spirit which animates Sir Charles Tupper. (Applause.) I remember that in the rebellion of 1885 one of the first of our boys to march to the Northwest to fight for his country was a son of Sir Charles Tupper. (Applause.) I am satisfied, should occasion arise for our services, there will be a friendly rivalry between Canadian militiamen to be the first in the field." (Hear, hear.)

Major J. J. Mason, 13th Battalion, Hamilton, seconded the resolution, adding his testimony that from year to year Sir Charles had assisted the Canadian team, and by praise and in other ways shown the interest he had in that association and its members.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER WAS CHEERED

as he rose to reply. He said: "I thank you most heartily for the resolution which Major Hughes has been good enough to

propose and Major Mason to second, and which has been so cordially adopted. Although I confess that I feel that the terms in which that resolution was couched are much more complimentary and flattering than I am entitled to I need not tell you I have always felt it not only a duty but a pleasure in London to do everything in my power to assist the Canadian team sent to Bisley to perform in most efficient and perfect manner the great duties with which they were charged. I am glad to be here to-day for the purpose of enabling me to say that I believe any money expended by this country on its militia is well spent, and



LIEUT.-COL. THE HON. J. M. GIBSON, M.L.A.,
President Dominion Rifle Association.

none more than that you expend in sending representatives of the militiamen of Canada to take part in the great competition at Bisley. (Applause.) I had the opportunity of making the acquaintance of the commandants and to a large extent of the officers and men who have discharged that duty in the Mother Country from year to year, and not only this but of learning the effect their presence had on the forces of the United Kingdom and other colonies. It has been a source of great pride to me to know that year after year, as Canadian teams have made their appearance at Bis-

ley, they have obtained a continually higher and improved position in regard to the respect they inspire on the part of all those gathered on that important occasion. The means of coming in contact with the militia authorities of the Mother Country and the other colonies has had a material effect it would be difficult to over-rate. The Canadian team has secured the confidence and regard of all the military men who assemble annually at Bisley, and it was a source of great pleasure to me to find that when Private Hayhurst succeeded in carrying off the Queen's Prize, instead of being received grudgingly it seemed to inspire enthusiasm throughout the entire force. (Hear, hear). It is impossible to over-rate the value to Canada and the Empire of our having a proper representation there. You have been signally fortunate in last year's team, and though not successful, as you, Mr. President, were on one memorable occasion, in bringing back the Kolapore Cup, yet your team was very successful. Having had the honor for many years of presenting the Canada Club Cup, given by the club of which I am a member, to the winner of the highest individual score, I can speak of the efficiency of the men composing the teams. I believe it is impossible to over-rate the value and importance to Canada of her defensive forces. The very foundation of that self-reliance which has existed and inspired patriotic sentiments on the part of the people of any country renders it imperative that you should have a defensive force in the country. Throughout this country the greatest satisfaction was expressed in the Government for putting Canada's defensive forces in a complete condition. I believe one and all will be impressed by Gen. Gascoigne's remarks, and will receive what he says as the best evidence

that the additional expense to be sanctioned by Parliament will be properly applied. In conclusion I may say that while I have any voice in public affairs, or even as a private individual, I will consider it as an imperative duty to further the objects for which this association exists." (Cheers.)

Lieut.-Col. Fred. Massey, Montreal, moved :

That the thanks of the association are due, and are hereby tendered, to the Hon. Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Premier of Canada, for his presence here to-day, and the kindly interest he has always shown in the association.

In doing so he said no words of his could

enhance the value of the motion. For years Sir Mackenzie Bowell had been the warmest friend of the association.

Major E. B. Ibbotson, Montreal, seconded the motion, which was supported by Lieut.-Col. Gibson and unanimously adopted. In replying the Premier referred to his early dealings with the president, and once more expressed his warm interest in the association.

MR. DICKEY COMPLIMENTED.

Lieut.-Col. J. H. Burland, Montreal, moved :

That the thanks of the association be given to the Hon. A. R. Dickey, M.P., late Minister of Militia and Defence, for the donation of \$100 towards last year's prize list, and to the members of the Government, as well as to the members of both Houses of Parliament, for the lively interest they have manifested in the association.

Lieut.-Col. Burland regretted that Mr. Dickey was detained by departmental business, and spoke highly of his worth as Minister of Militia. Lieut.-Col. Wm. P. Anderson, Ottawa, in seconding the resolution, also bore testimony to the very practical sympathy exhibited towards the association by their late Minister.

Lieut.-Col. George R. Starke, Montreal, moved, seconded by Major J. M. Delamere, Toronto :

That the association has pleasure in welcoming the Hon. Alphonse Desjardins, Minister of Militia, and thanks him for his presence, trusting that they will receive from him the same support and encouragement as from Ministers in the past.

Hon. Mr. Desjardins expressed his diffidence at appearing before the association as successor to a Minister who had pleased them so well, and who had known how to improve the militia forces. He hoped, however, that he would prove himself worthy to follow in his steps. (Hear, hear.) The chairman had alluded to the many changes in the head of the Department, but although he was a layman he believed the presence in the Cabinet of his colleagues who had been at the head of the Department, Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Sir Adolphe Caron, and Mr. Dickey, and of such military men as Lieut.-Col. Prior and Lieut.-Col. Ouimet, would be a sufficient check on his performing his duties properly. The Minister recalled that when the news of Private Hayhurst's capture of the Queen's Prize came, not only members of the association joined in felicitating him, but from end to end of the Dominion there was a general feeling of pleasure at the success of a Canadian marksman. This was an evidence of the loyalty of the country. People were not fond of seeing money spent, but when danger threatened the Empire a little while ago opinion changed, and people showed how ready they were to render the militia organization of Canada as perfect as possible. It was under such auspicious circumstances that he was called to take charge of the Department, and such was the spirit of the Cabinet that he might have to curb the enthusiasm of the Finance Minister. The Government was ready to answer the demand of the public opinion of Canada that

it should not stand with folded arms while the Empire was threatened. Canada had a duty to herself and to her traditions. (Applause). The Minister concluded by an announcement that he would contribute a prize to the next meeting, which was received with appreciation.

Major Delamere, moved, seconded by Major W. M. Blaiklock, Montreal :

That the association, in welcoming Maj.-Gen. Gascoigne, expresses the hope that while in Canada he will endeavor to assist the association in fostering rifle practice, and thereby raising the efficiency of the militia.

Gen. Gascoigne spoke of the many kind things which had been said of him since he came to Canada. He had served under Mr. Dickey, than whom no man could have a better master, and now under Mr. Desjardins. He assured the association that the defences of Canada were a subject of thought in more important places than his own office, and were taken up at home in a manner most flattering to Canada, if they knew as much as he did of what was going on.

THANKING THE DONATORS.

Hon. L. H. Davies, M.P., moved :

That the thanks of the association be given to the undermentioned gentlemen for their continued annual donations. Lieut.-Col. F. C. Henshaw, chairman of Council, \$100; T. C. Brainard, Esq., president of the Hamilton Powder Co., \$100; Andrew Allan, Esq., Montreal, \$10; Major A. N. Cosby, Toronto, \$10.

Mr. Davies expressed his pleasure, as a member of Her Majesty's loyal Opposition, in being present. The estimates for Militia and Defence were estimates which, as had been observed, were always discussed sympathetically by both sides of the House. There was no party in respect to the militia, and he was proud to say that the party spirit, which entered into the debate on other items, was markedly absent from the discussions on that Department. He was glad to hear the General's speech and to have an outline of his policy. He was glad to know that the policy of the Government would be a forward one in reference to the defences of Canada, and when it was proposed in the House he had no doubt it would be such as to meet with the approval of the Opposition as well as the Government. He could say, without hesitation, that every proposal the Government made would be met by the Opposition with sympathy and with a strong, cordial determination to approve of it if they could. (Hear, hear.) Before closing Mr. Davies said : " Will you permit me to say, in welcoming General Gascoigne, that, while his predecessor was not a marvel of popularity anywhere in Canada, I could not help admiring his manly, open criticism of the administration of the Militia Department at all times. (Applause.) I am sure everyone will agree that we do not wish to see a figure-head, and when we had those pungent, manly remarks I felt that not only was the Militia Department benefited by them, but members of Parliament were enabled to

appreciate what was being done for the money they voted." (Hear, hear.)

Lieut.-Col. J. Pennington Macpherson seconded this resolution. He said that the annual prize list amounted to about \$7,000, of which members and competitors contributed \$4,000, and the association was pleased to see citizens show their appreciation of the advantages it offered the militia force by helping to augment the prize list. In reference to the General's policy, Lieut.-Col. Macpherson said all would agree it was necessary to have more musketry instruction in camps. The Government must provide more target accommodation in camp, as it was not possible at present to give men more than twenty rounds. Or else rifle associations should be encouraged by grants of money, so that they could train riflemen to take care of their rifles.

Major E. B. Busteed, Montreal, moved, seconded by Lieut.-Col. John Hood, Montreal :

That the thanks of the association are due, and are hereby given to the Hon. J. C. Patterson, Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba, for his gift of a silver cup, value \$150; to Gordon Corbould, M.P., for a cup of the same value; to the Hon. W. H. Montague, M.P., for a gold watch of the value of \$50; and to the Hiram Walker Co., Walkerville, for their annual cup for the highest score in the Walker (Batt.) Match.

Lieut.-Col. Hood read an offer from an English firm of a cup, value 25 guineas, to be shot for with smokeless powder.

Lieut.-Col. Anderson, Ottawa, moved, and Andrew Haslam, Esq., M.P., Nanaimo, B.C., seconded :

That the thanks of the association be given to the president and directors of the following banks for their continued annual subscriptions: The Bank of Montreal, the Bank of British North America, the Canadian Bank of Commerce, the Merchants Bank of Canada, the Imperial Bank, Toronto; Molsons Bank, Montreal; the Dominion Bank, Toronto; the Eastern Townships' Bank, Sherbrooke, and the Bank of British Columbia.

Major Mason moved, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Tilton :

That the thanks of the association be given to Lieut.-Col. C. S. Roberts, commanding the Cambridge University Rifles, for his courtesy in placing the University ranges at the disposal of the Canadian team for practice during the week before the Bisley matches.

Lieut.-Col. Prior moved, seconded by Major Ibbotson :

That the thanks of the association are hereby given to the Board of the Canada Club, London, for their liberality in again presenting a handsome silver cup for the highest aggregate score of the Canadian team at Bisley.

Lieut.-Col. F. M. Cole, Montreal, moved, seconded by Lieut.-Col. H. R. Smith, A.D.C. :

That the thanks of the association be given to the Hon. Sir Adolphe Caron, Postmaster-General, for causing a post office to be provided on the range during the continuance of the annual matches, for the convenience of competitors and others.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, Lieut.-Col. Gibson being unanimously re-elected president on the motion of Sir Mackenzie Bowell and the Minister of Militia and Defence. The other officers and the members of council were re-elected, Capt. Hugh John Macdonald being

elected vice-president for Manitoba in place of W. B. Scarth, who takes his place on the council.

The Council met in the afternoon. Lieut.-Col. Henshaw was elected chairman, but in his absence Lieut.-Col. White presided. The old Executive Committee was re-elected, excepting Major Sims, who asked to be relieved. Lieut.-Col. Starke was elected in his place. Lieut.-Col. Bacon was re-elected secretary, and Lieut.-Col. D. MacPherson treasurer. The Finance Committee was also elected, though, as Major Perley pointed out, there is nothing whatever for them to do.

The selection of an officer to command and an adjutant for the Bisley team was left to the president and chairmen of the Council and the Executive. The Executive Committee was instructed to make all necessary arrangements for the Bisley team of 1896.

THE ANNUAL PRIZE MEETING.

Considerable discussion took place before the date for the annual matches was decided upon. Last year the date was changed because it came at the time of the Toronto Exhibition. This time did not suit the Maritime Provinces, who wanted it earlier in August. It was pointed out that the majority of competitors favored the last week in August, and it was consequently agreed to

commence the 1896 meeting on Monday August 31.

The Executive Committee was instructed to prepare a prize-list not to exceed \$7,000, and make all the necessary arrangements for the meeting of 1896.

NEW RANGES.

In answer to an enquiry by Major Mason, Lieut.-Col. Smith said they would use the Rideau ranges again next year. Nothing had yet been decided as to new ranges. At present there were two under consideration, Hintonburg and Rockcliffe. Hon. Mr. Desjardins having come in, it was explained to him that as houses had been built in the vicinity of the present ranges they were unsafe. It was therefore necessary for them to secure new ones without any delay—ranges which would do for many years to come. On the present ranges there is not half enough target accommodation, and they are not long enough for the modern rifle. It was important that something should be put in the estimates for the present year to purchase new ranges. Major Hughes pointed out that when the new Toronto ranges were selected the military men were not consulted, and the land purchased had proved unsuitable. He thought, and all present agreed, that before any land was chosen for the Dominion Association a

committee of expert riflemen should be asked to report on it.

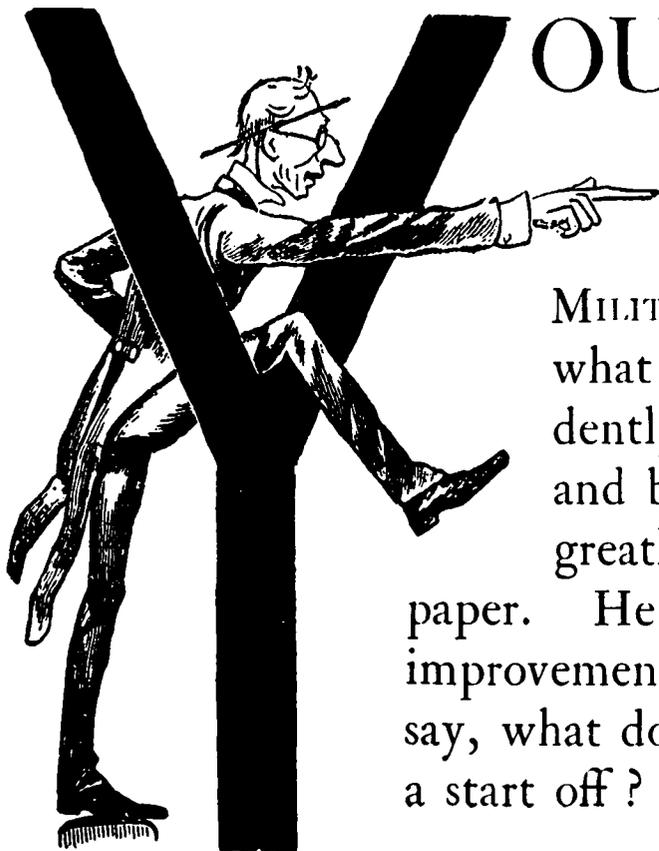
Mr. Desjardins answered that he would like to have a report from such a committee, and the following were elected: Lieut.-Cols. Gibson, White, Anderson, Macdonald (Halifax); Majors Perley, Hughes and Blaiklock, and they were instructed to report before June 1.

A PERMANENT ACODE AT BISLEY.

The question of buildings for our team at Bisley was discussed with much interest. It was agreed that the matter should be dealt with at once. Various methods of raising the money necessary were talked of. The cost would be \$10,000 to \$20,000. Some proposed a joint stock company. Others would erect the buildings if the Government would guarantee the interest on the investment; and some thought there were enough wealthy men in Canada who would contribute enough to erect the buildings. The consensus of opinion was that the Government should grant the amount necessary. Someone called attention to the present situation of the Canadian camp; it was too near the latreens to be pleasant. As Sir Charles Tupper was conversant with the affair it was decided that Lieut.-Cols. Gibson, Hughes, Macdonald and Starke should wait upon him and ask him to use his influence with the Government to erect the buildings, which they did later in the day, and were very favorably received.

AMMUNITION.

Major Perley drew attention to the ammunition. That made in 1893 was used up; 1894 was inferior, and none had been made in 1895.



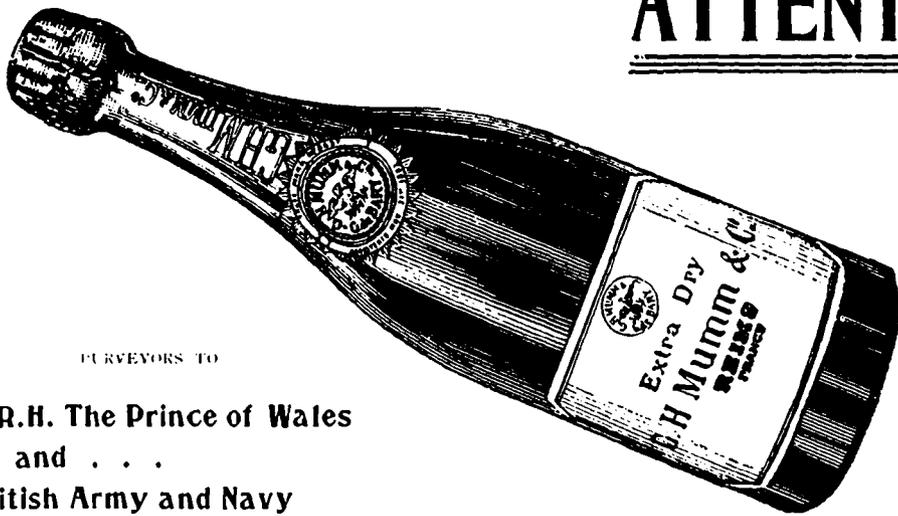
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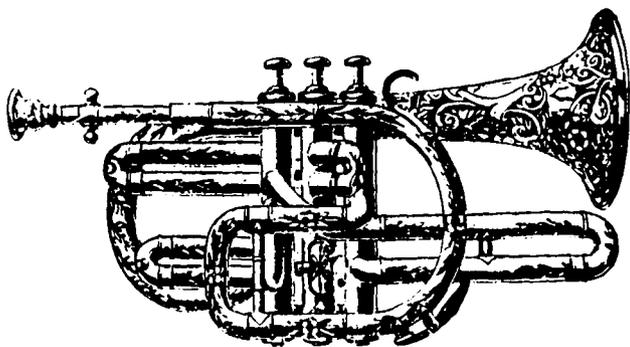
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THE CANADIAN
MILITARY GAZETTE

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MONTREAL-TORONTO, MARCH 1, 1896.

**COMMAND OF THE BISLEY
TEAM.**

THE Council of the Dominion Rifle Association is supposed to select the commander of the Bisley team. That body passes a formal resolution instructing the Executive Committee to make the appointment. But they do not. It is really made by the Minister of Militia. Nominally he consults this committee. In practice they are instructed as to whom to offer the appointment. It is frequently given as a reward for political services. This is unfortunate. Men not at all fitted for the position are sometimes sent over. There should be two essentials in a commander. It is important that he should be well up in rifle shooting, the result of constant attendance at the D. R. A. and his own provincial matches. He should be able to do credit to the Dominion socially on the Bisley common. The committee should decidedly object if an attempt is made to force any other man upon them. They should receive the support of the association.

This year it is hardly likely that there will be any difference of opinion. It is generally understood that Lieut.-Col. Starke, Victoria Rifles, will be offered the command. His appointment will give every satisfaction. There are few men more popular in the service. His years of hard work in a hard-working regiment like the Victorias deserves such an honorable reward. He is a rifle shot too, figuring among the winners at last year's meeting. Socially he will be a commander who will do honor to his country. For the adjutancy, either Major Mason, of the 13th Hamilton, or Major Bruce, of the Royal Grenadiers, will probably be selected.

THE NEW MINISTER.

The new Minister of Militia, Hon. Mr. Desjardins, has created a favorable impression on the officers who have so far come in touch with him. He shows a desire to do what is in the best interests of the force rather than to do what will bring his party most votes. It is greatly in his favor that he is a successful business man, and he is said to be pretty well off financially. Such men, with few exceptions, make good Ministers.

Mr. Desjardins has begun well and will make an excellent Minister unless interfered with by his confreres in the Cabinet. He is running his Department on business principles. He allows no accumulation of correspondence; everything must be attended to at once. When he was Mayor of Montreal he had a reputation of not promising anything he could not fulfil, and so far he seems to be following the same policy in the Militia Department. When he cannot do what is asked he says so promptly and gives a good reason for his refusal. In Montreal, where he is known, he is very well thought of.

The general impression is that he will hold the position temporarily only, as his business interests are too important to neglect. He took it at the urgent request of the Premier just as Sir Frank Smith at one time took the Department of Public Works. If the Conservatives are returned to power the late Minister, Mr. Dickey, will take the Department.

NOT YET SETTLED.

The public cables say that Quartermaster-General Lake has had a conference with Lord Wolseley, when it was settled that Canada should have Lee-Metford magazine rifles with which to re-arm the militia.

We have it on very good authority that it was not definitely decided at that interview that we should have the new magazine rifle for the militia. Even among the higher authorities there is a difference of opinion as to whether the Lee-Metford or the Lee-Enfield is the better arm for such a force as we have in Canada. The probabilities are that the latter will be selected. Many think that both might be used—the magazine with its complicated action by the permanent militia and the well-drilled city corps, and the simpler single-shot rifle by the rural corps, who do not have so frequent opportunities for practice in handling a weapon that in action they will have to use mechanically. It should be remembered that they are both .303 bore.

The officers commanding districts who have to make the semi-annual inspections of rifles and armories are pretty well agreed that when the new rifles arrive they must be stored in battalion armories with proper caretakers and not distributed about at local headquarters. Some company officers take

excellent care of their arms, but the majority keep them in damp rooms and give them no attention.

WHICH POWDER SHALL IT BE?

Not only has Canada to decide upon a new rifle but the smokeless explosive with which to load the shells must be dealt with.

The Home Government have adopted "Cordite," but it is alleged that official tests have demonstrated that it corrodes the barrel of the rifle, rendering it almost useless for accurate shooting after 1,500 or 2,000 rounds have been fired, and that it is easily affected by climatic conditions. It is said that Lord Roberts refused to use it in India and insisted on getting another kind. In explanation of the love of the Imperial authorities for "Cordite" it is said that some of the officials are financially interested in the contracts and that they suppress all reports unfavorable to it and favorable to other makes. Of course this may be a story circulated in the interests of rival manufacturers, of whom there are a number. The story is too important, however, for Canada to overlook, and we must have a fair test of all the leading explosives. Cordite is a compound of nitro-glycerine and gun-cotton. It is not in a powder, but in transparent threads not unlike the cat-gut violin string.

QUARTERS AT BISLEY.

THE building of permanent quarters at Bisley for the Canadian team is so popular with the force generally that it must soon be an accomplished fact. Those of us who are not successful shots, and can never hope to win a place that may give us an opportunity of using them, are quite as enthusiastic supporters of the project as the men who cross every year. We must make our representatives as comfortable as possible in every respect. They will do better work. Under canvas they often contract colds, and colds are not conducive to the clear eyesight or general steadiness which are essential to good shooting.

Buildings should be erected at the earliest possible moment. Cost should not be considered. Let plans be prepared that will provide ample accommodation inside, and such an attractive appearance outside that all visitors to the Common will be drawn to them. It will make them talk about Canada. We are not half as well known abroad as we think we are. Europeans know all about Africa and Australia, but little of us. They think we are part of the States. Letters addressed to business men in Montreal, Toronto and other places are often addressed "U.S.A."—Canada not even being mentioned. The association might very properly approach the Immigration as well as the Militia Department for a grant towards putting up an imposing structure. Every member of the team is an enthusiastic im-

migration agent. Besides, the Department itself should have a man present to distribute literature and information.

Major Blaiklock's suggestion that the buildings should be Canadian in every particular is an excellent one. Major Hughes premises that his district will provide the lumber without charge. THE MILITARY GAZETTE will undertake to find, among its numerous friends, manufacturers who will furnish one, if not all the buildings, with articles made in the Dominion. This will include even the pictures of Canadian scenery to decorate the walls.

CHANGE IN THE GAZETTE.

FOR eleven years THE CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE has worked more or less vigorously in the interests of the militia. It has been controlled by men who sacrificed their time and money for the good of the service. The paper has done much. It would have done more if we had all given it the moral support it deserved. Instead we have been over critical. We expected too much. The United States service paper, with ten times our field for circulation and advertising, is published at \$6 a year. We have found fault because those interested in THE GAZETTE with all their disadvantages did not give us a better paper for \$2.

Publishers in any other circumstances would have given it up years ago. But those interested in THE GAZETTE had their heart and soul in their work. They were prepared to lose money—and did—if they could help the force. They toiled on, hoping that some day their efforts would be appreciated. One after another they became discouraged and dropped out.

They were not alone, however; we have all, both officers and men, felt that our sacrifices were not recognized. Like THE MILITARY GAZETTE, we have all at many times decided to retire. If governments had to economize, they reduced the military grants regardless of the efficiency of the force. In making important appointments influence, not qualifications, was considered. In a year or two the novelty of the uniform and of the drill, and the show parades and the field days, wears away and we begin to take our work seriously. We feel that some time we may have to operate in the presence of a real enemy who uses lead instead of blanks. He has the best modern rifle and begins to decimate our ranks while he is yet miles off. All that are left of us and our ancient guns cannot begin effective work until he and his deadly weapons are within half a mile. He has the best of discipline; he has been trained in the very latest tactics; his officers are selected because of their ability. We are very weak in all these qualifications. We find ourselves badly handled at critical moments. This happened in 1866. It was painfully evident in 1885. It is appalling to think what may happen if we have to

oppose an enemy who may outnumber us ten to one.

Now, many politicians laugh, and some newspapers sneer, when we point out the necessity of better training. They forget that when the day of trouble comes we have to bear the fearful hardships and the miseries of which they can have no conception. They remain at home in comfort and in plenty, while we are starving at the front, our bed the cold, wet ground and our only covering the skies.

It is because these thoughts come to us all that we make strong representation for the recognition of our interests. We regard the possibilities of the future far more seriously than non-military men imagine. We hope to avoid the trouble but want to be prepared for it.

To secure proper recognition we must be united. We can only be united thoroughly by having an organ which shall be used as a channel for the discussion of what policy is in the best interests of the service. When that policy is agreed upon, acting as one man we must insist that the Government and the authorities carry it out in the heartiest possible manner. We must create in every part of Canada a sentiment in favor of the force, and we must deserve it by ourselves making even greater sacrifices for the common good.

THE CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE has a large circulation in every part of Canada. We all recognize it as necessary for the welfare of the force. Under its late management it has made a steady improvement, but it has not been a success financially. It will in future be controlled by a strong syndicate of militiamen who will endeavor to make it a success. Under some of its former managers it was supposed to be a Government organ. That cannot be said of it in future. Prominent members of the two great parties are now interested in it. With them all it will be the militia before party on every occasion.

A gentleman has been appointed to take entire charge, devoting all his energies to it. Arrangements have been made with The MacLean Publishing Co., of Montreal and Toronto, to look after the publication and business departments. The principal members of this concern have been in the militia for many years, and can be depended upon to do all in their power to make the paper a success.

This is the first number under the new management. It is hardly representative. Future numbers will show an improvement.

THE UNIFORM QUESTION.

The uniform question is an important one. It will be dealt with in future issues. Regiments which desire it must be permitted to draw the allowance and buy, under proper restrictions, the clothing, where they can do

so to best advantage. Contractors must not be allowed to control the Canadian Government. There is a growing feeling that the clothing should be made by prison labor. It would cost less and be more satisfactory.

A RIDICULOUS ANSWER.

The Young Liberals' Association, of Toronto, passed a resolution requesting the Government not to allow politics to interfere in military affairs. This was presented to Sir Mackenzie Bowell during a recent interview. The Premier expressed great surprise that anyone should hint that politics were ever allowed to interfere.

No one knows better than Sir Mackenzie that such an answer is decidedly at variance with the facts. Does he contend for a moment that the present commandant would remain at the head of the Royal Military College for one day more if it were not for political influence? The Commission appointed to inquire into the affairs of that institution verify what has long been known. They say plainly that Major-General Cameron is not the man for the position, and that affairs in the college are in a most disgraceful condition. It comes to us indirectly from one of the Commission that things were found so bad that they were afraid to publish them, and that they were embodied in a confidential report to the Government. As he said, "affairs at the college are rotten."

Does he contend for a moment that politics do not influence appointments to the permanent corps? We know of but one of the many gentlemen who have been gazetted in the past ten or twelve years who owes that appointment to his ability. The others got theirs through the political influence of their friends or relatives.

At a complimentary banquet given to the Right Hon. Lord Lamington, K.C.M.G., Governor of Queensland, at the Hotel Metropole, London, January 21, 1896, the chairman was Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, and the guests were: His Excellency the Italian Ambassador, General Sir Henry Norman, Lord Amphill, the Right Hon. the Earl of Selborne, Sir E. Dawes, K.C.M.G., the Right Hon. Geo. Curzon, M.P., Admiral Kennedy and many others. G. H. Munn & Co.'s extra dry was specially served; vintage, 1889. Same as now in consumption in Canada. The same wine was also served at a dinner to the Duke of Norfolk on his retirement from London County Council, January 29, 1896. Guests were: The Lord Mayor of London, Lieut.-Col. the Earl of Denbigh and Desmond, Sir Richard Webster, the Earl of Onslow, Sir Horace Farquhar, Bart., M.P., Sir F. Dixon Harland, etc., etc.

DOMINION ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION.

THE annual meeting of the Dominion Artillery Association was held last Tuesday at Ottawa. Those in attendance were: Lieut.-Col. the Hon. E. G. Prior, president, in the chair, His Excellency the Governor-General, with Capt. Wilberforce, Hon. Mr. Desjardins, Minister of Militia; Hon. Mr. Dickey, Lieut.-Col. Aylmer, Lieut.-Col. Irwin, Lieut.-Col. Macpherson, His Worship the Mayor of Ottawa; Major Bliss, Ottawa; Lieut.-Col. Cotton, Capt. Lee, Kingston; Major Davidson, Guelph; Lieut.-Col. Cole, of Montreal; Lieut.-Col. Turnbull, Major Ogilvie, Major Blaiklock, Major Reid, Capt. Hibbert, Capt. Costigan, Montreal; Capt. Macnachtan, Cobourg; Major Bell, Indian Head, N.W.; Messrs. T. Earl, M. P.; C. Cleveland, M.P., and J. B. Cooke, M.P.P. for Drummond, Que., and the secretary, Major Donaldson.

Col. Prior, in his opening remarks, said artillerymen need never be afraid that their wants and requirements would be overlooked by any Government. He thought they should get a little more pay than the infantry corps, as their drill was more difficult and exacting. He regretted the absence of Col. Walker-Powell, the late Adjutant-General, who he said, was the father of the force.

His Excellency Lord Aberdeen briefly expressed the interest he felt in the association.

On motion of Lieut.-Col. Turnbull, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Macpherson, a vote of thanks was given to Lord Aberdeen for his presence, and his increased donations for prizes for efficiency.

Major Donaldson, in presenting the secretary's reports, reviewed the history of the association since its organization in 1876, and the success it had achieved in the improvement of gunnery and the dissemination of artillery scientific knowledge. He also gave an account of the three teams sent to the National Artillery Association at Shoeburyness since 1881, and expressed regret that the lack of funds prevented the continued sending of teams. He also quoted from an article in *The Volunteer Service Gazette* showing the excellent impression produced by the last team sent in 1886. On motion of

Lieut.-Col. Cole, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Irwin, the report was adopted.

The financial report showed a balance in the bank of \$2,268. The report of the Council opened with the following remarks on the pay question: "The Council have repeatedly urged in past reports that an increased number of days' drill be allowed annually to the artillery, in view of the time which must necessarily be spent in learning the numerous duties and acquiring the technical knowledge expected of an artilleryman. Notwithstanding this repeated recommendation,



LIEUT.-COL. THE HON. E. G. PRIOR, M.P.,
President Dominion Artillery Association.

he Council regret to have to report that the actual number of days' drill for which pay was allowed was cut down from twelve days to eight for all the regiments of artillery, and in the case of the field batteries, while some of them performed their annual drills in camp, others, in consequence of the late date at which annual drills were authorized, were unable to perform any drills at all during 1895."

The report recommended that the assistant adjutant-generals' reports should cover the year from January to December, instead of ending on July 31, as at present. The

reports of firing at the Island of Orleans were satisfactory, and a camp for gun practice and instruction at Halifax was again recommended. The Council also urged upon the Government the necessity for guns of more modern type, especially for field batteries and for the protection of at present unfortified points. They also recommended the appointment of a committee to consider the revival of the practice of sending a team yearly to Shoeburyness.

Lieut.-Col. Macpherson, seconded by Major Ogilvie, moved a vote of thanks to the Government for the annual grant to the association funds. Senator Desjardins thought the thanks were due to Hon. A. R. Dickey. The new Minister expressed pleasure at being present. He thought the militarymen of Canada owed a debt to President Cleveland for having fired the patriotism of the country and making it hard for the Government to resist the demands of the militia. They could depend upon it that everything possible to improve the efficiency of service would be done.

Hon. A. R. Dickey spoke in the same strain, after which the report was adopted.

Maj.-Gen. Gascoigne moved a vote of thanks to the president. He thought the sending of Col. Lake to England to consult Lord Wolseley on the military requirements of the country was a step in the right direction. Whilst he could say nothing as to the rearmament, he could assure them that the demands of each branch of the service would be carefully considered. He asked to be allowed to head the subscription list for a Shoeburyness team this year.

The following officers were then elected: President, Lieut.-Col. Hon. E. G. Prior, M.P.; vice-presidents, Lieut.-

Col. Turnbull, retired list, Montreal; Lieut.-Col. Moore, D.A.G., Charlottetown, P.E.I.; Lieut.-Col. Call, commanding Newcastle Field Battery; Lieut.-Col. Lindsay, retired list, Que. Members elect of the Council were named as follows: Lieut.-Col. A. A. Stevenson, Montreal; Lieut.-Col. T. T. Turnbull, Montreal; Lieut.-Col. C. Lindsay, Que; Capt. McRae, Guelph; Major P.A. Irving, Victoria, B.C.

The meeting then adjourned.

At a subsequent meeting of the Council Lieut.-Col. Cole, of Montreal, was elected president, and Lieut.-Col. King, Major Max-

well, Lieut.-Col. Van Wagner, and Capt. Macnachten, vice-presidents; Lieut.-Col. Macdonald, Capt. Macnachten and Major Bliss were elected to compose the Executive, and Major J. B. Donaldson was elected secretary-treasurer for the twentieth time.

THE INSPECTION OF ARTILLERY.

To the Editor THE MILITARY GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR,—Enclosed find \$2 for subscription for another year.

I hope the force is spirited enough to assist you in your praiseworthy efforts in their behalf, but I hope you are not congratulating yourself too soon on the rearmament, particularly so far as the Field Batteries are concerned. There can be no doubt that your journal gives the militia a rallying point, and you have my best wishes for success.

I had thought to send you a note which might be of interest to the Field Artilleryman. For years we have boasted, and properly too, that the system of comparative inspection was the cause of our continued progress. It was to be assumed Col. Irwin, with his assistant inspectors, Cotton and Montizambert, had their standards as nearly as could be the same. This year I note that some of the way-up Batteries were inspected by "A" and "B" Battery men. I would not dare say they are not competent—far from it; they are probably as well qualified for the duty as anyone. The point, though, is that the standard is gone, and we may have in effect the same system as makes the inspection of infantry by the district officers (I mean the marks for inspection) perfectly useless so far as comparison of one district with another is concerned. Last year was an off year for the Batteries, and our eight days' drill was only got at the point of the bayonet. With the new distribution between the two inspectors I hope it won't occur again. But a note of warning should be sounded.

GUNNER.

Feb. 19, '96.

BISLEY HUTS VS. TENTS.

To the Editor THE MILITARY GAZETTE:

SIR,—Now that the question of permanent quarters for the Canadian rifle team at Bisley is being considered, perhaps a line from myself might not be amiss.

For reasons of economy I would be opposed to the D.C.R.A. proceeding on such an elaborate scale as that advocated by Capt. Pope and supported by others, unless the Dominion Government could be induced, for the purpose of advertising Canada, to undertake the work, or very materially assist in carrying it out.

Now that camping out at Cambridge whilst practising has been done away with, there is no preliminary drill, so to speak, for the two weeks under canvas at Bisley. My experience of the past has been that

owing to the colds contracted each year during the first week of the N. R. A. meeting many of the team are not in a fit condition to do justice to themselves and Canada in the aggregate shooting of the second week. Running noses and watery eyes are quite prevalent, and it is extremely difficult under such circumstances to make satisfactory shooting; and I say it is almost impossible to escape at least a slight cold whilst living under canvas during that usually very wet season.

Had the teams better sleeping quarters during the past few years I can truly say they would have given a much better account of themselves.

These drawbacks, coupled with the fact that the shooting conditions are much different from those we have to contend with in Canada, make it especially hard for those who visit Bisley for the first time.

Now, sir, if the D.C.R.A. is not prepared to go the length advocated by Capt. Pope, I should suggest, as a compromise, the supplying of huts similar to those supplied by the N.R.A. and rented by them to the competitors at a slight increase over tent. I am sure the N.R.A., if requested, would erect a camp of huts for the Canadians and rent them at a very slight increase over the rate now paid; or the D. C. R. A. could get permission and erect, say, twelve or fourteen, which, with the marquees as at present, would furnish ample accommodation and satisfy the taste of the most fastidious Canadian rifleman.

A cook-house for a Canadian mess would be an addition that would be much appreciated by the majority of the competitors.

I am, yours, etc.,

M. G. B. HENDERSON,

Col.-Sergt. "A" Co., 62nd Fusiliers.

St. John, N.B., Feb. 24, 1896.

P.S.—The huts referred to above are wood, covered with corrugated galvanized iron, and raised on posts about three feet from the ground. Size about 12 x 16 feet, with a partition running through the centre. These, I have it from good authority, are far ahead of anything in canvas ever invented, being perfectly dry. M. G. B. H.

HUNTINGDON, P.Q.

There was a good attendance at the annual meeting of the Frontier Rifle Association, in connection with the 50th Battalion, which was held in Huntingdon on the 11th of February. The report showed that after all debts had been paid there was a balance on the right side of the books. During the past season new revolving targets were put in, and have proved highly satisfactory. The association has ten Martini-Henri rifles for use in rifle and league matches. The officers of last year were re-elected, with the exception of Major Gardner, who was replaced by D. G. Macfarlane.

DEFENCE OF VILLAGES.

LIEUT.-COL. MAYHEW, B.M., of the North Midland Infantry Brigade, delivered a lecture recently before the Midland Volunteer Officers' Association at the headquarters of the 1st V. B. Warwickshire Regiment, Birmingham, on the "Defence of Villages."

Villages, were, the lecturer said, of essential importance in a military point of view, and their existence in the neighborhood of any position occupied by a body of troops was a weighty factor in the operations. It frequently occurred that a village or an extensive homestead formed a part of a line of outposts, and it was a matter of great difficulty for a commander to decide whether he would or would not occupy a village. Villages, too, were often found near bridges, crossing large rivers, and therefore became of immense value for holding the passage of streams. Again, villages frequently formed part of defensive lines, and their occupation, and the proper method of placing them in a state of defence, so as to render them impregnable as time would permit, must always be a subject of special interest to the military student. In directing attention to a few points for consideration in placing a village or farm in safe defence, he mentioned the self-evident fact that before any building could be occupied it was absolutely necessary that a sufficient number of infantry soldiers should be available for the defence. Probably his hearers would say in their own minds, "Who would be such a fool as not to do that?" but some of the very best generals had failed; they had not had a sufficient number of troops to hold a village, and what was supposed to be a source of strength had turned out to be a source of weakness. Touching first upon outposts, the lecturer pointed out that it very often happened, when all arrangements had been made for a line of outposts, they would be found in a prominent position almost immediately in front of the lines of the enemy's sentries. The question arose, What was to be done? The only safeguard that could possibly be placed against the occupation by any rapid movement on the part of the enemy's troops would be by bringing artillery to bear on it, so that immediately the enemy came into the village, they would probably be obliged to evacuate it. In a rear-guard, the defence of a village would not be deliberate, yet every effort would be made to render it effective for delaying the action of the enemy. This would be done by raising obstacles of every description. In extreme cases villages would be set on fire, if considered undesirable that the enemy should use them for cantonments. The lecturer quoted instances of delay in Napoleon's march on Russia, and in the history of Wellington in the Peninsula, and after technically describing the positions to be

taken up in the defence of villages, and again emphasising his points by historical reminiscences of Waterloo, and more recently of Metz, he urged that the advantages of holding villages were, first of all, that they were defensible in a short time; secondly, that they concealed the numbers and the disposition of the defenders; thirdly, that they sheltered the defenders and their reserves; and, fourthly, that they admitted of tactical defence. The disadvantages were that they absorbed many defenders, they were liable to be set on fire, the defenders were exposed to splinters from shells, and they were scattered and not immediately under control. By diagrams, Col. Mayhew described several kinds of villages, and went on to explain that the first thing to do in placing them in a state of defence was to establish an outer line of works to prevent surprise, particularly by night, and to be occupied during the artillery bombardment. In a case he recited, the fire of 78 guns was centered on one village, and it was absolutely impossible for defenders to remain there unless covered by substantial buildings. The question was: Where were they to place this first line? The outer zone should not be more than 100 yards to 120 yards in advance; otherwise it would take too many men to occupy them. It should not be nearer than 40 yards, or the men would be liable to be splintered from the shells and subject to the shots directed to the village. Having done that they would establish an interior zone for protecting the houses, gardens, garden walls, and so on, and making a regular fortification inside. Then, if the village was to be held they would establish a keep, taking the strongest building they could find, generally a church, but a brewery would do equally as well. For a garrison the minimum was one man per yard, but he thought it would probably be better to have at least two men per yard of the exterior line, as that would allow for support and reserves. Of course, if they had a larger body of troops at disposal, so much the better. In considering the resistance to be reckoned with in respect of modern projectiles, the lecturer first referred to the Service weapon, the Lee-Metford, and mentioned that it had been found by experiment that the bullet would penetrate practically 2 feet of soil or earth banked up. He advised them to reckon with a little more than 24 inches. In the text-book it said that if they got 2½-inch to 2¾-inch deal planks, placed them 6 inches apart, and filled the space between with coal or shingles, it would resist the modern small-bore bullet. Producing a small box, the speaker said he placed broken bricks on one side of the interior and coal on the other, and fired at 25 yards and 100 yards. The bullet, which made a hole the size of a pea where it entered, had passed through, and, as Col. Mayhew

showed his hearers, reduced the back to a shattered condition. Therefore, he advised them, if they were going to block up a window with planks and shingle and coal, to reckon with something a little thicker than six inches. In another experiment with a thickness of twelve inches the bullets entered at 10 and 100 yards but still remained within. With a sheet of ordinary iron of three-eighths of an inch thickness, the bullet fired at 100 yards scarcely penetrated, though at any other range it made a hole with ridiculous ease. Two bricks, added the speaker, were quite sufficient thickness to stop the modern bullet, experiments showing that it would smash the first brick only. With regard to the modern shell, two yards of soil at least were required. After giving some instructive advice as to the defence of houses, he maintained that the secret of all successful attacks was to bring superiority of forces to the decisive point. He urged that matters of defence of villages were of primary importance to volunteers, as in the event of their mobilisation it would be the subject demanding their particular and exclusive consideration.

EARLY CANADIAN MEMORIALS IN ENGLAND.

NO journalist in Canada has done more to bring old Canadian records to light, to investigate obscure points in early history, and to republish prints and sketches of Canadian places and houses, than Mr. John Ross Robertson, of The Toronto Telegram. Every year when in England Mr. Robertson is not unmindful of a task which with him seems to be a labor of love. During his visits to the British Museum, and while looking into some of the treasures in the King's Library, he found a number of highly interesting pictures relating to Canada. Among them were no less than thirty-two small sketches done on the bark of trees, oval, in size about 4 x 5 inches, and executed by Mrs. Simcoe, the wife of the first Governor of Upper Canada. These she had presented to King George, and they went with His Majesty's Library to the Museum. They include a sketch of Navy Hall, at Niagara, a view of the Old Fort in Toronto, etc. Mr. Robertson has had reproductions made of these. He also found in the library an old plan of Niagara, with a picture of the fleets on Lake Ontario in 1757, showing both the English and French vessels, and giving the names of each ship. He secured a photograph from a picture of Ogdensburgh in July, 1763, or Oswegatchie (black water) as it was then.

Another visit made by Mr. Robertson, full of interest to the students of Canadian history, was a journey to Wolford, near Honiton, in Devonshire, the home of John Graves Simcoe. The Manor House of Wolford was built under the personal supervision of Gov-

ernor Simcoe, and contains many memorials of his Canadian life. It is now occupied by Mrs. Simcoe, widow of Governor Simcoe's grandson. Mr. Robertson called upon Mrs. Simcoe, who is a charming woman, and whose neice, Miss Macrone, an entertaining companion, lives with her. The Canadian visitor was enabled to examine the original drawings of Mrs. John Graves Simcoe, the wife of the Governor. In the spacious entrance hall is an oil painting of Chief Justice Osgoode, of Lieut.-Col. Shanks, who took part in the war of 1812, and the only full length oil painting of Simcoe done when he was young. He is painted standing at the tomb of a friend, along with two other friends. In the drawing room there is a good miniature of Simcoe from life, as well as a drawing of Mrs. Simcoe. Mr. Robertson, in looking over this valuable collection, came upon some pictures not previously known to be in existence. There is one of Colonel Talbot's house, one of the earliest residences in Upper Canada in the London district. A picture of the King's Head tavern at Burlington Bay, where, it is said, the Queen's Rangers' Masonic lodge met on one occasion, is also there. This lodge was at work in York between 1797 and 1800. Another picture is a view of Cartwright's mill near Napanee, and there is a sketch of Kingston in 1796, one of the first, the earliest being that of Lieut. Peachy, of the 60th Regiment, in 1783-4, showing Fort Frontenac. In Mrs. Simcoe's collection Mr. Robertson saw a view of the old fort at Toronto and the first two bridges over the Don. There are several views of Burlington Bay, when it had no outlook into the lake, save a small creek. The entrance hall at Wolford contains the original colors of Simcoe's Rangers, the corps which fought in the revolutionary war. Near Wolford on the Simcoe estate still stands the farm house where John Scadding, father of Dr. Scadding, of Toronto, was born about 120 years ago. There seem to be only two monuments in England relating to early Canadian officers, the one to Simcoe in Exeter Cathedral, the other to Brock in St. Paul's. The latter is hardly ever seen by Canadian visitors, being placed high up, and escaping notice in a casual inspection. Mr. Robertson has a photograph of this, as well as of the pictures previously referred to. The zeal and sagacity evinced in making these researches are to be highly commended.

Officers and men of the militia will help THE MILITARY GAZETTE very much if they and their friends in making purchases will give the preference to those firms which advertise with us. They can help us still further by recommending the paper to any firms who sell goods that are used by military men in every part of Canada, either as military men or in their private capacity. tf.

PETITIONING FOR THE 100TH.

THE following petition, for the return to Canada of the old 100th Royal Canadian Regiment of the Imperial Army, now the Leinster Regiment, is being circulated, and is receiving numerous signatures in Toronto. It is addressed to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the original name of the corps having been the 100th or Prince of Wales' Royal Canadian Regiment, and reads as follows :

Whereas, by proclamation published in The Canada Gazette, bearing date at Toronto, 3rd day of March, A.D. 1858, and under the hand and seal at arms of His Excellency the Right Hon. Sir Edmund Walker Head, Baronet, one of the members of Her Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, Governor-General of British North America, and Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice-Admiral of the same, etc.

Authority was given to raise, recruit, enlist and establish, from amongst the loyal subjects of Her Majesty the Queen, residing in the then united provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, an additional regiment for the Queen's service ;

And, whereas, the said authorized corps having been duly recruited in Canada, and, in full strength, embarked for England in June and July, and were, on their arrival, enrolled, organized, uniformed and equipped in England, and were subsequently entered upon the rolls of the British Army as the "100th, or Prince of Wales' Royal Canadian Regiment ;"

And, whereas, under the number, title and designation aforesaid mentioned, the said regiment, after receiving its colors from the hands of Colonel His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales at Shorncliffe Camp, Eng., on the 10th of January, 1869 (this ceremony being his first public act), was duly entered upon the roster for foreign service, and, under the said number, title and designation aforesaid mentioned, served with fidelity and distinction in the several dependencies of Great Britain, viz., Gibraltar, Malta, Canada, etc., to which it had been ordered ;

And, whereas, under a subsequent royal warrant, on July 1, 1881, on the institution of the territorial system in Her Majesty's army, the name, title and designation of the corps was changed to that of the Leinster Regiment, though, at the earnest solicitation of the then officers of the regiment, the title of "Royal Canadians" was retained ;

And, whereas, under the said new name, title and designation last above mentioned, to wit : The Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians), the corps have served a further term of fifteen years, with honor, fidelity and devotion to the Crown in various Imperial garrisons in India and Ireland. Now,

this memorial prayeth that, in view of the circumstances connected with the original formation of the regiment, as a spontaneous offering from the loyal dependency of Canada to their Sovereign Lady, Queen Victoria, in the dark and ever memorable days of the great mutiny in India, and as embodying the literal sense of the "territorial system," the loyal and devotional spirit of Her Majesty's Canadian subjects can be better and more appropriately recognized and honored by having restored to the corps its original and much-cherished number, title and designation of the 100th, or Prince of Wales' Royal Canadian Regiment. The numerical predecessor of this regiment was disbanded in Canada in 1818, under the title of the 100th Prince Regent's Regiment, and to whose honors the present Royal Canadian Regiment became heir.

This memorial further witnesseth that in common with the earnest wish and desire of the Canadian people, as expressed through the medium of the press, it is the earnest wish, desire and prayer of Her Majesty's loyal subjects of Canada, as represented underneath, that the original title and designation, "Prince of Wales' Royal Canadian Regiment," should be restored to the corps, and that the former distinctive Canadian emblems, the beaver and maple leaf, may be emblazoned on the regimental colors with the words in addition Pro Patria, also the beaver or maple leaf or beaver on each side may be worn on the collars of the uniforms of the officers.

Also, that a recruiting depot for the corps may be established in Canada, over whose broad area, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans, and covering over one-half of the northern continent of America, there will ever fly the red cross flag of their forefathers, and the present inhabitants of which yield to none in their unalterable loyalty, allegiance and devotion to the Crown and person of their Queen Empress and the glorious traditions of the British Empire ;

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, etc.

THEY STAND WELL.

The Miramichi Advance very properly points out the excellent standing of the Newcastle Field Battery, which stands fifth in order of merit among the twelve batteries under drill last year. In "gun-laying" it is first; in "gun drill" second; in "fuze-boring" third, and it is well up in "horses," "sword drill," "discipline" and "camping." It does not point up well for "harness" and other equipments, but it would be unreasonable to expect this, as these have nearly all been in use ever since Col. Call took command of the battery in 1868. Considering the disadvantages under which it is placed in comparison with city corps, which have

well-appointed armories, better equipment in guns, harness, clothing, etc., concentration of their men and other facilities which encourage both officers and men to perfection in drill, discipline and other excellencies dependent upon personal effort, Col. Call and his officers and men have good reason to be proud of the excellent standing accorded to them in the competition.

THE RIFLE LEAGUE.

The matches under the Canadian Military Rifle League will take place this year on May 16 and 30, and June 13 and 27. Free ammunition will be supplied by the Government as in the past. The secretary, Capt. Andrews, has made an arrangement with the telegraph companies whereby they will handle the scores of each match. They will be transmitted to the secretary at Montreal Saturday night. They will be compiled and telegraphed at once for publication in the Sunday and Monday morning newspapers in every city in Canada. The league will bear the entire expense. When the secretary receives the detailed reports by mail he will prepare the official scores and they will be published in the next issue of THE MILITARY GAZETTE. The new score card is an improvement on those hitherto in use. It is very convenient, as will readily be seen on examination.

In The Picture Magazine of January, 1896, published by the George Newnes Co., Ltd., is a very excellent article on the old 100th, and is headed "H.M. Royal Canadians" " (late 100th Foot), the only regiment in our Army bearing a Colonial Title" etc. There are three illustrations: a color-sergeant of H. M. Royal Canadians, 1867, in Canadian winter dress with snow shoes on his back ; an officer of H. M. Royal Canadians, 1867, also in winter dress, and the relics of the old colors which were presented to us by H. R. H. the Prince of Wales in 1859, as they now are in the Library of Parliament, Ottawa.

The German army officer, though not a dandy, is very particular about his toilet, and at Ostend this year, a military upright carriage, long fair moustache and excellent, even, firm, white teeth, with some touch of swagger in gait, generally proclaimed, what absence of uniform would have confirmed, i.e., an officer on leave. This class of men smoke a good deal, but manage to preserve their teeth, and the odor of tobacco is not discernible on them in ladies' society, as they are great users of "Odol," of which the enormous amount of \$350,000 is sold annually in Germany. The retail druggists will have it here now on sale, as a contract has been made giving Messrs. Hermann H. Wolf & Co., of Montreal, control of it for the Dominion. Marvelously fine preparation. Once you use it, you wonder how you ever got along without it.

THE MARCHING QUESTION.

"The marching question," for it was inevitably destined to become a "question," is beginning to be understood in its varying aspects. Primarily the capabilities of the army as a fighting force are beginning to be recognized: secondly, the utterly unserviceable nature of a great portion of the soldier's equipment is being proved; and, thirdly, the "weeding-out" process becomes as certain as the law of gravity, for already the grumbler has been heard, and there are rumors current in Aldershot that no end of men are going to leave at the expiration of their seven years period. Be it so. It is one of the very best of signs. Though numerically less, the army will be really infinitely more efficient for being quit of the weak and lazy, who on a campaign become an intolerable burden, taxing to the utmost the resources and patience of a commander. It is inevitable that a sudden increase in the amount of work demanded of the soldier, morally altering to some extent the conditions of his enlistment, would have some such effect as I here foreshadow, but the fact that by far the great majority at Aldershot, where the marches have been stiffer than at any other station, have quietly settled down to the work and regard it as necessary, shows that the true spirit of soldiering is not to be looked for in vain. Compensation for the extra wear and tear of boots and clothing incidental to the increased work demands, however, urgent and immediate attention to prevent injustice and to reward the spirit of tolerance with which the marching exercises are, on the whole, regarded by the men. In my despatches from the New Forest I alluded to the necessity which existed for this provision, on account of the then extraordinary destruction of clothing, and pointed out that most of the men could never again wear several of their garments. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, in his official report, made a similar suggestion, and, I have no doubt, is prepared to further the reasonable and modest request of all ranks, that something should be done to meet the permanently altered circumstances which have recently come about.—Naval and Military Record.

A recruit was put on sentry the other night at the Barracks at Woolwich, who didn't know the exact ins and outs of the business. A good-natured chum brought him a sandwich from the Canteen, and just as he was about to eat it, up came the Major in mufti. The sentry did not recognize him, so the Major said: "What's that you are eating?" The sentry replied, "A sandwich, have a piece?" "Do you know who I am?" ejaculated the Major. The sentry said, "Perhaps the Major's servant, perhaps his groom." The Major—"Try again, sentry." The sentry—"Perhaps the old chap himself." The Major—"Right this time." The sentry—"Good heavens! hold the sandwich sir, while I present arms."

Canadian Military Gazette Hotel Directory.

LONDON—THE LANGHAM HOTEL, REGENT St. and Portland Place, W., for the Army and Navy, and families. This hotel is one of the finest in England, every modern improvement; moderate tariff.

MONTREAL—THE ST. LAWRENCE HALL IS centrally located and the most liberally managed hotel in Canada. Rates from \$2.50 to \$4.00 per day. Henry Hogan, Proprietor.

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Military Books

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- Field Artillery Drill, 1893..... 0 40
- Queen's Regulations, 1895..... 0 65
- Infantry Drill..... 0 40
- Manual Firing and Bayonet Exercises, with the order of Guard Mounting for the Canadian Mil... 0 20
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A REGIMENT OF GENTLEMEN.

A LONDON correspondent writes us as follows: Mr. Evelyn Stewart, who is actively engaged in endeavoring to form a regiment of gentlemen, tells me that there is every prospect of the proposal being favorably received by the War Office, with which he is in communication. Every post brings him dozens of letters containing offers of service. Some come from gentlemen who have commissions in the army, but find that they cannot maintain so expensive a position, and, therefore, wish to shoulder the rifle as privates, while other letters are sent by young sons of titled families, and dozens from public school boys, many of whom have been well-known in the play-fields of Harrow and Eton. Gen. Maltby, the popular secretary of the Royal United Service Institution, has generously placed a room at the disposal of the promoters, and as soon as a definite reply from the War Office is obtained a meeting will be called. The Hon. W. W. Dundas, brother of the Marquis of Zetland, is giving Mr. Stewart valuable assistance. Mr. Dundas was some time ago an adjutant of the 5th Dragoon Guards, and has had considerable experience in organization. Two peers have promised to join the committee, as well as three or four well-known army officers. Two officers of the headquarters staff are also assisting in the work. Whatever some service journals may say to the contrary, Mr. Stewart assures me the idea has received high official approval, and only requires the sanction of the War

Office to make the regiment an accomplished fact. He denies that it is intended to draw any social distinction between this and other regiments, and repudiates the idea that it will be a "corps of snobs." Respectable men of education will be admitted, and especially those who, while physically fit for service, have failed to get a commission. The title "A Regiment of Gentlemen" was handy for the moment, and vaguely describes what the promoters have in view, but "Royal Musketeers" would be a better name for the regiment.

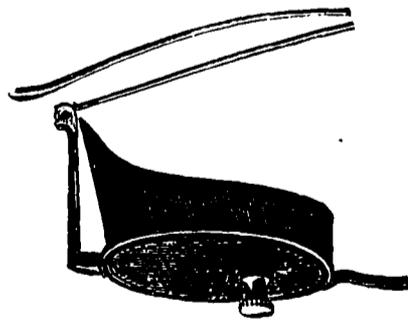
"It was rather a mistake," continued Mr. Stewart, "to name the regiment as one for gentlemen. Several papers attacked the proposal, and accused me of raising unnecessary class jealousy. One evening paper said 'I was a flower of breeding and education, too poor to pay my fees to enter Sandhurst, and too proud to mix with "Tommy."' As a matter of fact I tried for a commission and failed, and to raise a class distinction would immediately condemn the whole thing; and if this regiment ever exists it will have no material superiority to the rest of Her Majesty's forces, unless it be in physique and intellect. The idea is that the corps should have the full regimental strength of 1,200, two-thirds infantry, and the remaining third cavalry, with a maxim gun detachment. Though at first it was suggested that a premium should be paid for outfit, this idea has been abandoned, but, if the corps is formed, the majority of the men might subscribe a fund for a better barrack accommodation than exists for the rank and file at present.

There are hundreds of young fellows, between 18 and 25, who have passed the established character and literary qualification without succeeding in obtaining admission to the Royal Military College, and a thousand or two are without a profession or employment. These, together with those already anxious to join, would make a magnificent fighting body, fit to go anywhere or do anything, and unless such a corps as I have suggested be raised these fine specimens of born soldiers will be lost. They would form the ideal scouting branch of an army corps. There is only one stipulation I should ask for, namely, that yearly a certain number of commissions should be offered to those in the ranks, as the prospect of getting commissions would always tend to smartness and amenability to discipline. Lord Wolseley in his valuable work, 'The Soldier's Pocket-Book,' says: 'Indeed, with a small expedition, I do not see why you should not have as its backbone a small corps exclusively composed of young officers?' Mr. Stewart desires to receive the names of any young gentlemen who would join the regiment, particulars of which can be obtained from him at 10 Seaford Road, West Brighton. Already some 250 men have expressed their desire to join, and of public school boys Westminster and Eton take the lead.—Naval and Military Record.

Lieut. R. K. Scott, R.A., (a Kingston cadet) on completion of the Firemaster's course at Woolwich, has rejoined No. 10 Company, Eastern Division, Royal Artillery, at Dover.

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