

THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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A NEW FEATURE.

It was indicated in these columns last week that we proposed in this issue to inaugurate a new department of THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE—a department of Sports and Pastimes other than those of a military nature, but in which the class of men composing the militia are interested. This will not lessen the space at our disposal for military affairs, but additional pages will be provided for except in seasons of dulness in military circles, when all the space is not required for military matters. We believe that the new departure will be the means of interesting a larger number in the paper.

It has appeared to us that there is an extensive field of usefulness for this new department, in which, while endeavouring to afford accurate and complete records of the principal sporting events of the Dominion, we will endeavour to interest rather by the general character of the sporting news and notes than by the reproduction of the results of athletic contests already chronicled in the daily papers. There being no portion of the public more addicted to sport and sporting events than the militia of Canada, more advantageous auspices could not be asked for a publication treating of manly sports, than to be thus introduced as an adjunct to the CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE—a paper that has already established a home for itself from one end of the Dominion to the other.

Our aim will be to furnish news in relation to forest, field and stream, to discuss matters of interest relating to all branches of sport, and endeavour to chronicle as fully as our friends will, by their assistance, enable us to, all items of interest to sportsmen—in which term we include every description of man on the face of the earth who indulges in any amusement.

It will be an object which we will always try to keep in view, that the great distances between points in this large country create a natural barrier which interferes with the free intercourse of clubs at long distances from one another, and as far as may lie in our power we will make it an object to let all these sporting organizations feel that they have a bond of union in our columns.

Wherever members of the Anglo-Saxon race have, by chance or fortune, been thrown on the face of the earth, they have invariably introduced the sports of their own country, and have in many instances enthusiastically adopted native sports and amusements, frequently improving and developing them. In every country and in every clime they have entered into and encouraged sport in its widest and most literal sense.

Canadians have proved themselves worthy scions of their forefathers, in this respect as in most others, and throughout the length and breadth of our noble land—from ocean to ocean—from the most southerly limit to the ice-bound regions of the north there can scarcely be found a hamlet of even the smallest size that has not formed organized clubs for carrying on the athletic sports suited to each of the seasons of the year, in addition to which there are numerous clubs dotted here and there through the country that devote their attention to those branches of sport which, although not as prominently before the public as those into which the competitive feature enters, are nevertheless of great usefulness, and from which their votaries derive much benefit and considerable amusement.

We would earnestly ask the assistance of our friends by favouring us with communicated articles upon any sport in which they may be interested.

THE CANADIAN ARTILLERY.

At the completion of another drill season it is gratifying to find our artillery well maintaining their position as a thoroughly efficient branch of the service, especially when the exceptional disadvantages met with this year are considered. On account of the uncertainty about the annual drill, early in the season, it was not found possible to arrange for artillery camps as usual, and many field batteries considered it advisable to drill in June, before the orders for the annual drill were published, rather than attempt assembly later. As a general rule, such independent drill at local headquarters is not considered so satisfactory by the authorities, and the officers and men themselves, as when three or four batteries can be assembled together at camp for exercise. The general efficiency lists, however, show that the batteries hitherto distinguished in this respect have well maintained their position. We are glad to welcome the Durham Field Battery to the exceptionally honourable place won, this battery having carried off first prizes both in drill and driving and in gun practice. The gun practice for both field and garrison batteries was carried out on the same lines as in previous years and with a similar amount of success, but it is a matter for regret that so prominent an organization as the Kingston Field Battery should not have been able to furnish a detachment for gun practice, notwithstanding the effort made to suit their convenience by fixing the date on the Monday following the Saturday on which they broke camp at Belleville.

The Garrison Artillery competitions were largely participated in, and though a gloom was cast over the meeting by

the unfortunate accident which happened to a member of the Prince Edward Island detachment, it is worthy of note that this is the first incident of a similar nature which has occurred since the inception of these contests.

The Halifax Brigade having this year succeeded in winning the much coveted efficiency prize—though run very close by the New Brunswick Brigade and by a battery of the hitherto invincible Prince Edward Island Brigade—it is a matter for especial regret that owing to the destruction of their drill shed by the recent fire they will be unable for some time to resume the voluntary drills necessary to the maintenance of efficiency. Prompt steps should be taken by the Department to repair the damage or to provide temporary accommodation, so that the local force may not be altogether discouraged.

On the whole, as we have said, the Artillery well maintain their creditable all-round efficiency, and the marked success of the comprehensive plan upon which they work should lead the other branches to take pattern by them.

The War Office has put an end to the confusion respecting the proper name of the new magazine rifle by adopting "Lee-Metford" as the official designation. The other names commonly used were "Lee Speed" and "Lee-Burton."

The U. S. *Army and Navy Journal* reports that a turning point in the history of the National Lancers, of Boston, has been reached by the admission of a number of gentlemen whose names are given with this comment :

"To those who know the standing of these gentlemen in the community it means that an effort is to be made to have a cavalry company in Boston every bit as exclusive as the splendid City Troop of Philadelphia and Troop A of New York City.

"Most of the gentlemen interested in the movement are members of one or more of the various Boston clubs and nearly all are already good riders.

"Many of the new members are horse owners, so that the appearance of the company on parade will be equal to any like command in the country, as well as allow frequent mounted drills, a thing at present unknown.

"Both the city of Boston and the commonwealth of Massachusetts are to be congratulated upon having such a beneficial and substantial improvement to the cavalry branch of the service."

THE NEW U. S. DRILL REGULATIONS.

(Army and Navy Journal.)

On the conclusion of the recent fall drill at Annapolis of the naval cadet battalion, the new infantry tactics for the navy may be said to have been given a practical test in all but fire work. As the drill adopted by the navy is the new infantry drill for the army, its working at Annapolis, where it was first put in practice, may be of some interest to the military service.

The new drill was taken up at Annapolis about Sept. 1. To say that it has proved a success puts it mildly. Its every feature is indicative of simplicity and mobility. This is characteristic of both the marching and of the manual. Less memory is required than formerly, and a mass of useless appendages in the form of markers and guides has been gotten rid of. These statements are based on the actual workings of the drill, and not on any theoretical summary. On the last of the fall drills the cadets in responding to the order to assemble, fell in, facing square to the front, and with arms at an "order." The companies dressed with arms at an order, the greatest difficulty being shown in taking the alignment. Again, after aligning their companies, the company officers went by the shortest way to their proper positions at the front and centre. Time was saved

As an instance of the celerity possible under the new

drill, the following movements were executed in thirty minutes time:—(1) Open ranks, (2) Manual of arms, (3) Close ranks, (4) Firings, (5) March in line, (6) General alignment, (7) Front into line from column of companies, (8) Companies right and companies right turn, (9) Change of front, (10) Form line of columns, (11) Change directions in line of columns of fours from close column, (12) Movements by sections. A feature of the final drill was the rapidity with which the street riot work was executed. The battalion was formed in columns of squares, each company forming a square, then opened up a little later into column of companies. When the leading company approached an imaginary side street, running at right angles to the line of march, the first company executed "sections right and left turn." As each section made its turn the rear rank obliqued on the flank, then came up on the line of the first rank, all pieces being brought down to a charge bayonets. The movement was executed in a flash, and in an instant after the order was given a solid wall of steel was protecting the battalion flank, each flank section in the meantime firing volleys down the side street. As soon as the rear company had passed the side street, each of the flank sections executed the march by the right and left flanks, then columned right and left, the front rank of the two sections obliquing and uniting in front of the rear rank.

In its operation the new infantry drill is very German in character. The battle formation in the new tactics is one of the strong features of the drill. A line is thrown to the front, the men taking the normal battle interval of one pace. The units in the line are the squads of four men, each squad being in charge of a squad leader. The line is formed by the deploying of squads to the front, and their extension on arriving on the line of formation. The fighting line is worked at a distance varying from 300 to 600 yards to the front of the reserves. In action, the fighting line is fed from time to time. There is no falling back. The one feature prominent is the constant increase of the fighting line. The work of the naval battalion showed that the fighting line could be fed with celerity and much freedom of action.

In point of effect, the new tactics have in no wise lost in martial show. In the change of direction, it would naturally be supposed that the substitution of the turning for the wheel does away with a very pretty sight. On the contrary, the turnings, as seen when changing direction in column of companies, is strikingly fine. The effect is not unlike the graceful curving of an intact line, the curve assuming the rigid straight line on the completion of the turn. By the turning methods, the change of direction is rapidly formed, and is a great improvement over the old wheels.

The new naval tactics seem to be admirably adapted to the needs of the navy. Just so much of battle work has been given as naval battalions are likely to need. The shore work of seamen infantry is likely to be confined more particularly in future to clearing streets, maintaining order in captured cities, and in putting down riots. For such work, the riot drill should meet all demands. It is simple, and very effective. It is the first of its kind ever seen in this country, and the adoption of this part of the Navy drill by National Guard organizations would be a good thing.

The United States Revenue Marine Corps has taken up the new Navy drill, as has also the Naval Reserve. It would seem that there has been no mistake made in the new tactics. Whatever changes may be ordered will be more in the line of changes in phraseology than otherwise

The conditions of success are attainable and capable of demonstration; * * the preparation of study and thought is essential to skill in war, and * * being thus prepared, a leader in order to achieve the most notable successes, need not be gifted with inspiration, but only with the more appreciable, though still rare, combination of sound sense, clear insight, and resolution. — *Harvey.*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

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

SUGGESTED PRIVILEGES FOR CADET CORPS.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE.—In your issue of December 3rd there is an article in reference to the Brigade of Cadets taking part in the Lord Mayor's show in London, England, and also the lack of interest taken by the public in matters of that kind in this country, and I heartily agree with you, Mr. Editor, that not only should more interest be taken by the public but also by the Government.

The benefits derived from a properly conducted and well organized cadet corps are numerous. It gives the members a good physique and carriage, and it cultivates habits of cleanliness and neatness, as well as quickness of thought and action, and a spirit of true patriotism. These corps are, for the most part, composed of boys who are receiving a first-class education, sons of parents who rank in some of the highest positions both social and public in the country. They also form a very desirable feeder to the militia force of this country, and, as such, should receive every encouragement from the Government.

I would suggest, as a means of encouraging such organizations, as well as those who are so persevering in their efforts to keep them together, that the Militia Department issue to every uniformed corps that has an efficient instructor the short Snider rifles, together with a Morris tube and ammunition for the same, say 1,500 rounds annually, free; that the Department grant the same privileges to such organized cadet corps as is given to the militia, viz.: that the officers, non-commissioned officers and members, not under the age of 18 years, be given an opportunity of attending the permanent schools of instruction, which are doing such good work, during their summer vacation, for the purpose of obtaining certificates. I am speaking, Mr. Editor, from my personal experience at that excellent institution at London, Ontario, and I feel sure that if the above suggestions could be carried out it would give an impetus to such work as well as help to encourage a better military spirit among our youth, who, if cause should arise, are the future soldiers and defenders of this country.

I should like to hear, through your valuable paper, the question of cadet corps thoroughly discussed.

INSTRUCTOR.

ST. THOMAS, Dec. 15th, 1891.

REGIMENTAL.

Gus. Williams, aged 27 years, died at Suspension Bridge, N. Y., on Tuesday, 3rd inst, from typhoid fever. He was the youngest son of Capt. John Williams, of the London Field Battery, and for some years was a gunner in the same corps. He had been married but four months, his bride being an estimable young lady of Poughkeepsie, N.Y. The remains, accompanied by the widow, Capt. Williams and Fred. Williams, of Detroit, Mich., brother of the deceased, arrived in London on Wednesday. The interment, which was private, took place the following day to Mount Pleasant Cemetery. Three brothers of deceased with an intimate friend of the family, and two sergeants of the London Field Battery, acted as pall-bearers. Among the many beautiful floral offerings were a hoop and wreath from his associates at the Falls and a large cross from the sergeants of the Battery.

At the invitation of Lieut. F. Gilliott, the members of No. 1 Company and the staff of the 43rd Battalion, Ottawa, assembled at the Terrapin Restaurant last week, the occasion being Mr. Gilliott's desire to thus pleasantly celebrate his acceptance of his officer's commission. There

was a large turnout of the company, who marched from the drill hall, where they had had their usual weekly drill by Capt. O'Grady and Lieuts. Sutherland and Gilliott. The staff officers present were Lt.-Col. Anderson, Majors Wright and Sherwood, Assistant Surgeon Scott, Capt. Rogers, Adjutant; Capt. Parker, Paymaster; Capt. Jamieson, Quartermaster; and Capt. Billings and Lieut. McLean of No. 4 Company also attended. A very enjoyable evening was spent, the musical talent of the company being freely displayed. Col. Anderson being called upon for an address, made a brief reference to his approaching retirement from the command of the battalion, which he very much regretted. He desired, however, to correct a misapprehension seeming to exist as to the cause of his retirement, which was due to the increased responsibility he had recently assumed in the Department of Marine, of such a nature that his military connection might place the department at a disadvantage. Under the circumstances he had thought it proper to resign the command. He was satisfied, however, that the interests of the 43rd would not suffer at the hands of his successor, Major Wright. He took occasion to compliment the host of the evening, Lieut. Gilliott, on the turnout of No. 1 Company in response to the invitation so kindly given them for the occasion.

GLEANINGS.

Another, and this time more than usually interesting, survivor of the events of the Battle of Waterloo has been unearthed in France in the person of an old lady, Madame de Variola, who was recently interviewed at her residence in the village of Poisat. She was born in March, 1793, is a comely dame, and can walk with the aid of her staff to the next village, seven miles off. She remembers Napoleon, who came to her father's mill on the eve of Waterloo. She recollects him going up the ladder to the very top of the mill, where he remained some time looking round with his telescope. She and her parents had good reason to remember the battle because the fighting went on all day, and in the evening, with her father and sisters, she went out with a lantern and tended the wounded.

Colonel Stuart Nicholson, commandant of the School of Gunnery, in his report on the meeting of the National Artillery Association at Shoeburyness last August, says that there was a falling off in the attendance, the number of detachments competing having been 141, as against 149 last year, and that this decrease has been continuous for the last four years. The number of officers has diminished by nine from that of last year, but there still remains a larger attendance than was formerly the case. As regards shooting he has the satisfaction of being able to report a slight advance. Every year, he says, the Volunteers have become better soldiers in discipline, bearing, and dress, and have progressed most noticeably in drill and in the service of their guns. The report of Colonel R. M. Stewart, the camp commandant, also bears testimony to the improvement in efficiency shown by the force. The appearance and bearing of the Volunteers merit, he says, "unqualified approbation, and can only have been attained by an earnest endeavour, which deserves every consideration and admiration." The conduct of all during their stay at Shoeburyness has been, on the whole, very good and soldier like. "Breaches of discipline," he adds "have been exceptional, and though not subject to military law, the majority have voluntarily performed their duty in a way which could not have been surpassed had that law been in force. This voluntary submission to strict and unusual rule exhibits the reality of the force in a very striking way, and testifies to the obedience that arises from an intelligent appreciation of the necessity for military subordination as the first factor in any body which aims at military efficiency or success."

ATHLETIC Sports and Pastimes

CURLING.

Tobogganing and curling appear to have been in a game of see-saw for some few seasons past, with the advantage decidedly in favour of the latter just at present. As the interest in tobogganing has decayed, so has the membership of the curling clubs increased; and the game of curling is of such a very seductive character that the infection having once been caught escape from the toils appears to be almost impossible. It is very seldom indeed that the stanes and besom are relinquished after having once been assumed.

The Ontario Branch R. C. C. C. have held their annual meeting and the grouping of the various clubs for the blue ribbon of the Province—the Ontario Tankard—has been announced. I will endeavour during the coming season to publish a complete record of the competition—both the primary and final—for this interesting trophy, which is par excellence the curling competition of the Dominion, nearly 100 clubs participating in the primaries, and the finals usually occupying all the attention and nearly all the ice of the Toronto curlers for two days or more.

The Canadian Branch, R. C. C. C., have not yet held their annual meeting; and their dilatoriness in this respect is but a type of the distance they lag behind their brethren in the west in all matters connected with their works. While the Ontario association have by energy and intelligent activity aided and encouraged the development of clubs in every village in the Province, the Quebec or Canadian Branch have by their indifferent and perfunctory manner of performing their duties, manifesting a careless indifference as to whether clubs became enrolled as members or not, actually allowed clubs to slip from their grasp, and abandon their irons for the more friendly if less scientific granite.

It behoves the Canadian Branch to bestir themselves, unless it is their wish to see a moderately small state grow smaller still and beautifully less.

It is strange how completely alone the Canadian Branch stands from the remainder of the curling community. I believe I am right in saying that they are the only curlers in the world using iron instead of granite for "stances," and they form a barrier between the eastern and western curlers of the Dominion which it is a pity cannot be obliterated.

There can be no question the irons enable a much closer and more scientific game to be played than the stones do; but there is more boisterous fun over the latter and none of that intense earnestness and business like anxiety which not unfrequently characterizes an iron game.

The weight of the stones being so much

less than the average irons,—the one weighs about 40 pounds while the other runs perhaps 60 pounds,—makes the game with stones a much quicker one than the other.

The iron travelling up the rink with a slow methodical pace, carried along on a keen day almost by its own weight, gives ample space for anxious careful watching and no little anxiety as to whether it will just accomplish the object with which it was delivered, or barely miss it by a fraction of an inch. This slow motion is altogether unknown to the stone players, as their lighter weapons require a more rapid delivery than the iron, and travel up the rink in a more hasty, if less accurate manner, and make the game both quicker and more lively.

I know I will incur the wrath of all iron players at the bare thought of suggesting the substitution of the granite for the iron; but it is to be regretted in the interests of union and good fellowship that the iron was ever introduced.

It may be said that many iron playing clubs have outfits of granites, and are always willing to play a game if the chance occurs. This, however, is not the same as if the granite was the regular weapon of war for them; and it is no satisfaction and very little pleasure for members of an iron playing club to play a stone playing one or vice versa.

Will anyone encourage me in an effort to have granite adopted throughout the Dominion?

SKATING.

The annual meeting of the Canadian Amateur Skating Association has been held in Montreal.

The report regrets the lack of interest shown in the Association outside of the city. In only one place apart from Montreal—Ottawa—has the Association more than a single member.

This certainly is not encouraging, but it may very reasonably be asked, what possible advantage is there to be gained by joining the Association?

It has always seemed to me that there was a want in this Association which would have to be supplied before it could be made sufficiently interesting to the average skater to induce him to become a member. What this want is, or how to supply it, I regret to say I cannot suggest, although I have tried to think the matter out more than once.

When I saw that Mr. E. S. Clouston had been elected President for the current year I thought the difficulty might be solved, if brought before him, and it was with very great regret I found he had been obliged to decline the office.

It is most unfortunate for the skating association that he could not have given them one season as their chief officer, for if there is one man in the Dominion more fitted than another to quickly grasp a situation, and devise a remedy of any

defect therein, it is the present General Manager of the Bank of Montreal; and the same qualities which in business affairs enable him to take in at a glance a position which calls for considerable thought from others to understand, would have probably found a remedy for the semi moribund condition of the skating association.

I would be glad if anything could be done to increase the interest in this association and its work, and will gladly receive any suggestions to that end.

HOCKEY.

Clubs are organizing and reorganizing in larger numbers than ever this season, and the activity displayed makes it very evident that the popularity of this favourite game is still on the ascending grade.

From a spectator's point of view, hockey is probably the best game played in Canada, and a match between two first class clubs ought to draw quite as good a gate as any lacrosse match.

The Provincial Associations in Ontario and Quebec have reorganized, but I have not seen notices of meetings in any of the other provinces.

Two of the features of the meeting of the Ontario Association are greatly to be regretted. The fact that it has been considered obligatory upon the Association to expel a club from its membership so early since the organization, cannot but be considered as a most unfortunate occurrence. That the action of the Association was not warranted I do not for a moment mean to insinuate, but it is too bad that a club which apparently had very good material in it, should have been allowed to fall under the control of such undesirable parties as appear to have secured the St. George's.

I notice that although the Association has disqualified the St. George's as a club, the members of it are not individually affected. Surely this is not quite right, if correctly reported. Some of the members of this club must have been responsible for the very reprehensible mismanagement, and if they are all to be eligible for membership in other clubs they may carry their wrecking tactics into other quarters, and do more damage than they are worth.

I certainly would favour refusing permission to any of the officers or members of committee of the expelled club to join any other club in the Union, until the obligations which they had incurred had been discharged.

Another regrettable feature of the report was the announcement of the resignation of the Lindsay Club from the Association. This club played well last year, and indeed much of the credit of organizing the Association itself belongs to the main prop of the Lindsay Club, that keen and active player Mr. John A. Barron, whom every sportsman through-

out the province, irrespective of politics, will be sorry to learn has just been unseated as member of parliament for North Victoria.

The withdrawal of the Lindsay Club so soon from the Association cannot be passed without a desire to have the reasons for their action, and as these have not reached me I would be glad if some one would publish them, if they are such as may be given to the public.

The meeting of the Canadian Association, which ought more properly, in the present condition of the game, to be styled the Quebec Association, was characterized by a feature which to an outsider would seem almost inexplicable, although when explained it is possibly not so unreasonable.

I refer to the desire of the Montreal clubs to have a schedule system introduced and the efforts of the outside clubs to adhere to the challenge system.

With the championship in Montreal, and no allowance for travelling expenses it would be reasonable to suppose the interests of the metropolitan clubs and those of the others would have been the very reverse of what they appear to be. But I understand that the foreign clubs were obliged to use all their influence and persuasive eloquence to accomplish their wishes; which I am sorry to say I cannot believe to be as much in the interests of the game as a game, as of the individual clubs.

It appears one of the reasons why the clubs outside of Montreal did not wish to have a schedule was because they feared they would find it impossible to get their players to go to Montreal as often as it would have been necessary to do to play all the clubs there. While this appears on the face a plausible enough reason, yet in the interests of the game it is the very reverse of a bona fide argument.

As matters stand now, clubs are apt to neglect all but their eight or ten best players—teams are small in number—and unless there is some necessity for increasing the number of players, all but those in the first rank or likely to be called upon to play on the first seven, stand a fair chance of being frozen out after a season or two, but if there was a good reason for wanting the presence of eighteen or twenty good men in a club, many now discouraged would be looked after and brought forward.

The schedule system, if adopted, would have been the very thing to accomplish this, for it would certainly be impossible to find any seven or eight men—unless they are professionals—who could spare the time to be running to Montreal six or seven times a season, and it would have been found necessary to have a goodly number of reserve men to fill vacancies, and this would have been the means of bringing more men to the front, and of extending the usefulness of the game.

The number of clubs in the Ontario Hockey Association has been considerably increased this season. All the increase, however, has been from Toronto, as the Galt club merely replaces Lindsay, which withdraws.

This cannot be considered a gratifying feature, as it practically puts the association in the hands of the Toronto clubs, a position which it is undesirable for the clubs of any one city to hold, in the general interests of the game.

It is to be regretted that the Rideau and Ottawa College clubs did not become members. Either club is strong enough to beat anything seen on the ice last season, except the champions; and their weight and influence might be counted on in the interests of the clubs outside of the Queen City.

They might not, however, have had any chance of using their vote or influence unless their representatives had been more fortunate than the representative of the Ottawa Club, who was notified that the annual meeting of the association would be held in the evening, and when he appeared at the appointed hour learned that the meeting had taken place in the afternoon. It is to be hoped a satisfactory explanation will be given to this.

It is said the members of the Princess Louise Dragoon Guards contemplate forming a hockey club. They would undoubtedly receive a hearty welcome to the ice, and we would be glad to see them take the same place at hockey as they did in the Gzowski Cup match in 1886.

SNOWSHOEING.

The absence of snow never seems to act as a deterrent upon the members of Montreal snowshoe clubs from turning out for their weekly tramps at the season when snow should be here. Already tramps have been held by the Crescent, Argyle, Montreal, and other clubs, and they all appear to enjoy their evenings as much as if the "beautiful" was plentifully besprinkled over the mountain.

Ottawa snowshoe clubs are slow in getting to work. Possibly because they have no mountain to cross as an incentive to an appetite for supper. They will, however, be better off this season than hitherto, as very desirable quarters are being prepared with a view to making them act as headquarters for all the clubs to use as a club house.

REMEMBERED BY FRIENDS.

The many personal friends of Mr. A. Ellicott, so well known in connection with the Crescent Snowshoe Club, Montreal, met on Thursday evening last at Friend's rooms on Recollet street and presented

him with a beautiful Russian leather fully equipped travelling bag. The presentation was from his friends and fellow-boarders and not in connection with the snowshoe club of which he is a prominent member. The presentation was made by Mr. Chalmers, of the Sabiston Publishing Company, in a happy speech. Mr. Ellicott responded in an equally happy strain, and then followed songs and speeches until the watching hour of night reminded the guests that they must disperse. About 35 sat down to a nice little supper provided by the host of the "Old Scotch House."--*Herald*.

BOWLING.

The association bowling matches continue to be disposed of with apparently always one ending, the home team wins. If the games yet to be played this season result in a similar fashion to those already played this and last year, it would almost appear as if it would be desirable, if not necessary, that teams should hereafter play a few games on neutral alleys.

The adoption of such a rule as the above would make it desirable to have another club alley in Ottawa; and might act as an incentive to some of the active spirits in the west end of the city to build alleys, for the use of which we have no doubt they would readily secure a large membership.

FOOTBALL.

Although the football season has closed, and in the excitement of preparing for the winter amusements which football men usually take up on dropping the leather, it may be thought that the subject is now out of date, there are yet a few points in the results of the games of the past season that I would like to bring to the attention of footballers, in the hope that something may be done to remedy them before the spring games begin.

The most important of these is the situation as to the championship. It is not a dignified position, however it may be considered. It is not creditable to the good sense of such a body of men as those who compose the principal clubs of the Dominion, that two clubs should be in a position to claim the championship of the Dominion, or should attempt to do so.

There cannot be any doubt the Ottawa College Club is fairly entitled to the claim, and it was absurd for two clubs of such good standing as the Montreal and Osgoode Hall men to pretend to play for the championship while the Ottawa College Club still remained unbeaten. The winner of such a match might without doubt claim the championship of the Rugby Union, but certainly could not lay any claim to the championship of the Dominion, and the one without the other would be a barren honour indeed.

Perhaps the press is alone responsible for the claim appearing in this latter form, but it certainly was published in this manner.

A solution of the problem has appeared in the announcement that the Ottawa College Club has determined to rejoin the Ontario Rugby Association. Everyone interested in football in the Dominion will be pleased to hear this. The return of the garnet and grey to the arena will be warmly welcomed, and ought to incite all their opponents to redoubled efforts to tear from them the championship which they have so long held.

I don't think there ought to be great difficulty in defeating them. Indeed, if they had not played Montreal in Montreal before their game for the championship here on Thanksgiving Day, I think they would have been beaten here. It was evident they were playing here to defeat the game which had worsted them in Montreal, and their opponents did not change their tactics. Time and again during the scrimmages the Collegians, warned by the disaster which had befallen them in Montreal, would be on them before they could fairly grasp the ball. Dr. Elder appeared to be most anxious and painstaking, but he could not be everywhere at once, and there were so many glaring offences of off-side play on both sides that it is no wonder he missed some of them.

By the way, there is no doubt he was in error in making the game a tie. The scorer *did* put up a point too many for the home team, but the board was changed before the game ended, and the correct figures mounted. I kept the score the whole time, and made no mistake about it, for my sympathies were with the defeated, and I would rather have favoured the Montrealers.

Another point is the very objectionable feature of off side play, indulged in to an extent which is most reprehensible. Why cannot the referee be relieved of the duty of watching for off-side play? This could be much better attended to by a couple of umpires whose exclusive duty it would be, who could devote their whole attention to it, leaving the referee greater liberty for attending to other points calling for all his energies.

Why is it that the championship appears to be confined to the provinces of Ontario and Quebec? Surely there are teams both in the east and the west who could make a good struggle for the supremacy.

I have no doubt the expensive transport is one great deterrent to more frequent interchange of games between the clubs from the east and west. This is an evil that might be remedied in great measure, if properly represented to the railway companies, and might be well worthy of consideration by the Football Unions.

It is marvellous to contemplate the amount of money taken at the "gate" at the Yale-Princeton match. If it was not for the dispute as to the amount which should be accounted for, possibly attention would not have been drawn in such a marked manner to the results. As it is, we cannot help an envious feeling arising in our breasts when we hear of gate receipts amounting to \$25,000 or \$30,000, and a club receiving as its share \$13,000.

TRIBUTE TO AN HONOURED CANADIAN.

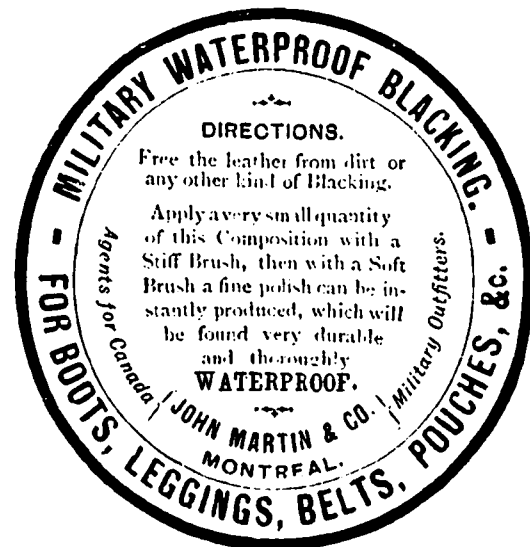
(Toronto Mail.)

Under the head line of "Sport and Athletics in Canada," the *Week's Sport* of New York comments favourably on Canadian prowess in the athletic field. Referring to the new Toronto Athletic club house it makes a lengthy excerpt from the *Mail's* report of the speech of Prof. Goldwin Smith on the occasion of the turning of the first sod. This speech it characterizes as "utterances which demand a place in every publication that is interested in sports." In the same article the *Week's Sport* pays the following well deserved tribute to a great and honoured Canadian:—"Toronto is now to have an athletic club building which will perhaps be the largest on this continent, and it is a coincidence that the land chosen and purchased by the trustees of the athletic club is a portion of the estate known as Sleepy Hollow, owned by the Hon. John Beverley Robinson, a man who was one of the best all-round amateur athletes this continent has ever produced. With the gloves he had few equals. His high jumping record, a great one in those days—44 years ago—was 5 feet 9½ inches. As a senator of Canada he was a success, and afterwards as Lieutenant Governor of Ontario he broke all previous records for gold lace and dignified and refined bearing. At the present moment we venture to say that there is not a man in America of the Hon. John's age who could tackle him successfully with the gloves or otherwise, and we mention him here as an example of the manner in which judicious use of manly sport may successfully combine with every other ambition, and with every tradition of an illustrious and gifted family.

THE GAME AND FISH COMMISSION.

Hamilton, Dec. 8. The Ontario Game and Fish Commissioners had a short but important conference in the City hall today with the commissioners from the United States, there being present Messrs. J. H. Wilmott, Muskoka; Dr. McCallum Dunnville; R. A. Lucas, Hamilton, and Ald. A. D. Stewart, Hamilton, of the Ontario Commission, and Hon. Senator McLaughlin, of Rochester, N. Y.; Mr. Frank J. Amsden, of the Cheap Fish Food As-

sociation of Rochester, N. Y.; Mr. George Skinner, of the St. Lawrence Anglers' Association, Clayton, N. Y.; Dr. H. M. Smith, Washington, D. C., of the United States Fish Commission, and Hon. E. G. Whittaker, of Albany, N. Y. Hon. R. Roosevelt, chairman of the New York Commission, was not present, and Senator McLaughlin was chosen chairman. Gen. Richard U. Sherman was detained by illness, but sent a long report upon the propagation and protection of fish. Mr. H. H. Warner also sent a letter on the same subject. The meeting unanimously decided, on motion of Ald. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Whittaker, that provisions ought to be introduced into the laws of the United States and the provinces of Ontario and Quebec forbidding the taking and having in possession salmon trout and whitefish weighing less than two pounds each, bass weighing less than one pound, and blue pike less than ¾ of a pound; also that the Government should locate the spawning beds so that fry might be placed artificially in the places where fish would naturally go to deposit their ova. The question of approving of the New York codification of game laws came up, and the code was generally approved of by the Canadian representatives. The clause which allows game birds to be shot in the spring was unanimously denounced, and the American commissioners without a single exception agreed with the Canadians in this respect. It was therefore unanimously decided to approve of the New York codification except in this respect, and to recommend that the shooting season be from September 15th to December 15th, or at the least December 30th, instead of from September 1st until May 1st. The use of nets whereby small fish are taken out of the water and destroyed was denounced most emphatically. The question of establishing a hatchery in Ontario was discussed, and it was decided to recommend to the Ontario Government the establishment of a hatchery. It was also decided to hold meetings of the International Convention of Fish and Game Commissioners annually, the next meeting to be held in Detroit.



CHAS. SWIFT, BOOTMAKER

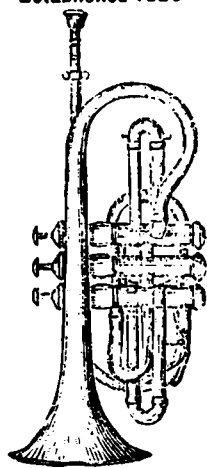
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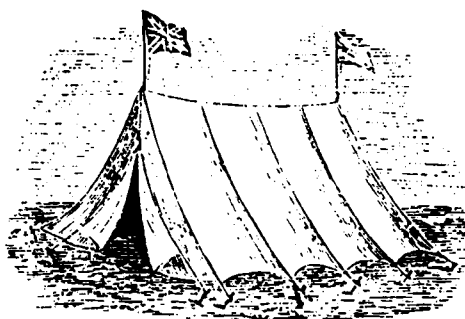
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200 yards.....	5 5 5 5 4 5-34	} 103
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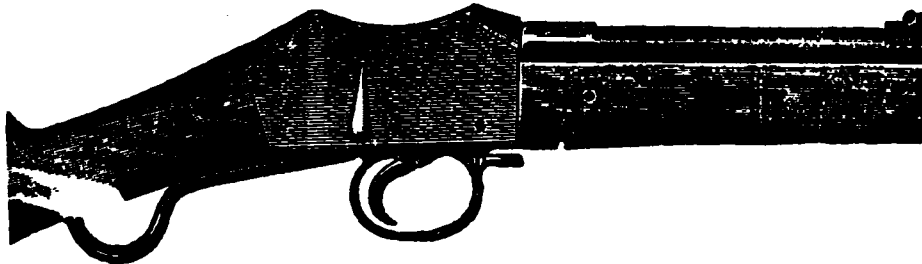
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