

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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**MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.**  
No. 7, of 30th May, 1890

## Personal.

The continuous criticism, by ill-informed writers, of General Sir Fred. Middleton in connection with the disappearance of Bremner's furs from the Government storehouse at Battleford, has occasioned the appearance in a number of leading dailies of a lengthy and well written letter, clearly explaining the slight extent of the General's interference in the matter, and showing from the evidence how little blameworthy he is. Unfortunately pressure on our space prohibits a reproduction of the letter. We trust it will serve the intended purpose of removing from the popular mind the mistaken impression created by mischievous newspaper reports. No one who has read the evidence can pretend for a moment that the General acted in any way dishonourably, and it is cowardly to attempt, by baseless insinuations, to cast a slur on his good name.

The *Volunteer Record* thus notices the honour conferred upon Col. Gzowski:—"An erstwhile representative of our Canadian comrades has been remembered, in the person of Sir Stanislaus Gzowski, who has been created a K.C.M.G. The new Knight served in the Russian army in his earlier days. Migrating to Canada, he entered the public service there in connection with railways. He has long taken a keen interest in the Volunteer movement, and for 15 years was president of the Dominion Rifle Association, in which capacity he has more than once taken a leading part in the gatherings on Wimbledon Common, where he will be remembered as Col. Gzowski. He has also since 1879 held the position of Aide-de-Camp to the Queen in Canada."

Lt.-Gen. R. G. A. Luard, C.B., who has been unemployed for five years, having vacated the appointment of Brigadier-General, Aldershot, on April 30, 1885, has been consequently placed on the Retired List, although with regard to age he might have remained until July 1894. Lt.-Gen. Luard has held various Staff appointments, the principal of which have been D.A.A.G., Crimea, Brigade Major at Dublin and in China, Assistant Inspector of Volunteers, Assistant Military Secretary, Nova Scotia, the command of the Militia in Canada, and the command of a brigade at Aldershot.

The *United Service Gazette* notes that "Captain H. Merritt, adjutant of the Governor-General's Body Guard, Canada, has been ordered to join the course of instruction for the Auxiliary Cavalry, commencing at Aldershot on the 2nd June." It will be remembered that Capt. Merritt sailed for England several weeks ago, in company with Lieuts. Denison and Evans, of the Infantry School Corps, whose intention it was to take a course of musketry instruction at Hythe. Lt.-Col. Geo. T. Denison, who accompanied the party, making the trip for the benefit of his health, is now on his way home.

Capt. H. E. Wise, who lately completed five years' service in Canada as aide-de-camp to General Middleton, and then rejoined his regiment in India, has received an appointment upon the staff of Lord Lansdowne, Viceroy. The preferment of this gallant young Canadian officer will be learned with pleasure by his many friends here.

Lt.-Col. Hon. J. M. Gibson, of the 13th Battalion, was defeated in Hamilton on Thursday last at the provincial general election. As he is one of the ablest members of the Ontario ministry, another seat will of course be found for him.

Sir Francis de Winton, with his aides-de-camp, Capt. Williams and Capt. E. A. Smith, and accompanied by Sir John Willoughby, has left London for Yombassa, to assume his duties as Governor of East Africa.

## Regimental and Other News.

Surgeon Arthur Watters, of the 9th Battalion, Quebec, met with a serious accident whilst riding last week, and is in a very low condition.

It is not considered probable that Lieut. Stairs will visit Halifax this year, owing to the difficulty of obtaining long leave. Lieut. Stairs has been appointed Adjutant to the Engineers at Aldershot, a post hitherto not held by anyone under the rank of Major.

Patrick Walker, of the 66th Princess Louise Fusiliers, Halifax, has been summoned at the instance of Capt. Chipman to appear before Stipendiary Griffin on two charges, viz., neglecting to attend drill on the evenings of the 13th and 16th of May last. Walker has employed counsel. Another man charged with a similar offence is to be summoned.

The *Quebec Chronicle* gives the following report of the inspection of the 9th Battalion "Voltigeurs de Quebec," on the 5th of June: The 9th Battalion underwent their annual inspection at the hands of the D. A. G., Lt.-Col. Duchesnay, on the Plains yesterday afternoon. About three o'clock the regiment marched out from the drill hall, eight companies strong. The battalion, which by the way is still steadily improving both in point of physique and in efficiency in drill, made a very favourable impression. Some thousands of persons witnessed the affair, a large proportion being ladies. The march past in quick and double time was very fine as were also the manual and firing exercises. The echelon movements left nothing to be desired. The marching was all very steady, and the field movements were next to perfect. The review wound up with a fine display of skirmishing. Colonel Duchesnay expressed himself as much pleased with all he saw, and remarked a great improvement from last year. After returning to the drill hall the men were entertained by their officers. Lt.-Col. Roy was in command of the battalion.

## THE TWENTY-FIRST ESSEX FUSILIERS.

The 71st birthday of Her Majesty was appropriately celebrated in the town of Leamington on Monday, the 26th May, by an excellent programme, witnessed by between nine and ten thousand people from all parts of the county of Essex, and many from the city of Detroit.

The event of the day was the parade and sham battle of the 21st Essex Fusiliers. The regiment was under the command of Lieut.-Col. Wilkinson, assisted by the following members of the staff: Capt. Fox, Adjutant; Surgeon Casgrain, Capt. Meloche, Paymaster; Capt. Reeves, Quartermaster, and Sergt. Major Leighton.

The following company officers were present: No. 1 Co., Capt. Cheyne and Lieut. Jackson; No. 2 Co., Capt. Ley and Lieut. Alderton; No. 3 Co., Capt. Jones and Lieut. Russell; No. 4 Co., Capt. Botsford; No. 5 Co., Capt. Dewsen and Lieuts. Bartlett and Ponting. The rank and file were 200 strong. The band numbered 23 men under Bandmaster A. Ruthven, who has the band in fine condition. Major Guillot, through important business, was unable to be present. The regiment looked fine on parade, and were very steady, considering the very soft state of the ground from the incessant rains of the past week or two. Frequent cheers greeted the Fusiliers as the several movements were executed.

The following programme of movements was fully carried out: The usual feu de joie and royal salute; march past in column and quarter column, and in column in double time; advance and retire in line, advance in direct echelon from the right; change direction to the left, and form line on No. 5; column to the right, and wheel in quarter column; and, in the sham battle, the attack with the usual supports and reserve. After being reformed in column on markers, the regiment deployed to the left, advanced, and fired three volleys by companies from right to left; again advanced, halted and fired five battalion volleys, fixed bayonets and charged. The enemy in a line of rifle pits were put to flight. The enemy were represented by a number of old volunteers and citizens, who kept up a continuous fusillade until routed by the bayonet. After the manoeuvres, the regiment sat down to an excel-

lent dinner, in the new exhibition buildings, provided by the people of the town.

After the dinner Col. Wilkinson addressed the regiment thanking all for responding to the invitation, and for their steady, soldierly bearing. The Colonel was greeted with three rousing cheers and a tiger. The men were then dismissed to enjoy the programme of sports for the afternoon. At 5.00 p.m. the assembly was sounded, the regiment reformed, and headed by the band, marched to the M. C. R. station, and passed to their respective company headquarters. All were pleased with their outing, and the conduct of all was most exemplary.

FUSILIER.

#### Winnipeg.

Perhaps you have been thinking about writing an obituary for "Buckshot," with gratitude to the "grim" hand that put a stop to your Winnipeg Correspondent, but the old man with his scythe has not seen fit to reap his harvest yet, and you are likely to hear occasionally from the "Bull's eye" of the Dominion.

There has been little time to write letters this spring. We Manitobans—thinking of a probable failure in the Ontario crop—have been going to seed lately and we can assure you that a bountiful supply of No. 1 hard will be procurable about the middle of August.

Referring to our favourite sport, rifle shooting, we notice that the 90th have not yet taken first place in the League. We are not altogether disappointed at this, but look forward to better results. I am a little of the opinion that our firing point is rather too far from the targets. Of course any little difficulty of this nature can be altered. We were told that the redoubtable Inman was not up to his usual form last match, and that Macklin disappeared in a cloud of dust shortly after finishing his 600 yards score. It has been rumoured—but we cannot speak with certainty—that white spots will be marked along the bank for those who use the V.

The prizes offered this year by the Winnipeg club are very numerous. They are also handsome in design, and valuable. This rifle association deserves the patronage of all lovers of shooting. Its members are all practical men, both in business and at the butts. They have spared neither money nor time to make the rifle popular, and from the number who participated in the practice last Saturday the number of tickets sold, and the general harmony and genial good fellowship evinced on the range, one need be no prophet to foretell a great measure of success. Of this company Mr. E. L. Drewry, a gentleman who takes a great deal of pleasure in encouraging all manly sports, is the president, and is ably assisted by the indefatigable secretary, Mr. S. S. Kennon. We might mention others who deserve it, but will reserve the knowledge for a future occasion. That is if you want to hear again from—

BUCKSHOT.

#### The Rifle.

The Grenadiers are without the valuable assistance of that veteran marksman, Staff-Sergt. R. McVittie, in their matches this season. Some time ago he met with a severe accident by which his left arm was temporarily disabled, and his doctor says he will not be able to use it for shooting for nearly two months yet.

The Executive Committee of the Toronto City Council have unanimously asked the Council to apply for an injunction to stop volunteer rifle shooting at the ranges on Garrison Common. This action if taken will no doubt bring to a head the agitation for the closing of the ranges which the riflemen have so long fought.

The Ottawa club shot at 800 and 900 yards on Saturday with Martinis, seven shots at each range. The attendance was smaller than usual. Capt. S. M. Rogers took the dessert spoon in the first class with 52 points; J. A. Armstrong being close up with 51. H. McKay headed the third class with 46, and F. W. Smith the second class with 43, a teaspoon being the prize in each of these classes.

A rifle match which created a great deal of interest took place on Garrison Common on Saturday afternoon between the bachelors and benedicts of the Sergeants' Mess of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, the latter winning by 41 points. The victors will be entertained by the vanquished at a banquet on the first Monday in July, at the Sergeants' Mess. Lieut. Knifton was the range officer. The ranges were 200, 400 and 500 yards, 5 shots. The teams consisted of fourteen men each. The married scored 652 and the single 611.

A couple of months ago we noted that Armourer Sergeant Ronan, of the Twelfth Battalion, Toronto, had placed upon the market his new style orthoptic, which in its experimental form received no little commendation last season from the few who had an opportunity of trying it. The experience this spring has been no less happy, very high scoring having been done at Toronto by riflemen using the new invention, and

trials made at Ottawa also being quite satisfactory. The Ronan orthoptic differs from those to which we have been accustomed in that it is not at all in the shape of spectacles. It consists simply of a tiny metal cup, held in position in a corner of the eye by a two-pronged handle also of metal which passes between the rifleman's hat and his head and is thus securely held. The cup is so small that the rifleman's vision is not limited by it save when he is actually taking aim, and then the sights appear beautifully distinct through the aperture.

A few weeks ago a challenge was given by Major Peters, "C" Battery, R. C. A., to Captain Young, "D" Company, I. S. C., to fire a match on any day between the 5th and 10th of May, 20 officers, non-commissioned officers and men on each side; ranges, 200, 300 and 400 yards; five shots at each range. The Company fired on the 7th and the Battery on the 9th of May, the scores being as follows:—"D" Company, 1,022 points; "C" Battery, 981 points.

We have pleasure in recommending to the use of Canadian riflemen the excellent score book published by Messrs. J. & A. McMillan, of St. John, N.B., whose advertisement appears elsewhere in this issue. Each page of the book makes full provision for recording all the particulars of a three-range match, including a separate target diagram for each distance. Contained in a substantial cloth cover, the score sheets are so simply held in place that when filled they can be readily removed and new blank sheets inserted, thus giving a new book at a trifling cost. Every rifleman desiring a score book at once complete and so simple as not to be confusing, should give this one a trial.

The second spoon competition in connection with the Vancouver Rifle Association took place on the range at Lynn's Farm, Vancouver, B.C., on Saturday, the 17th May. Dr. Bell-Irving won the spoon with the excellent score of 94. The ranges were 200, 500 and 600 yards:—

Dr. B. Irving	31	34	29	94	J. D. Stuart	28	25	23	76
C. E. Tisdall	31	31	26	88	H. Smalley	28	27	21	76
W. H. Forrest	29	29	29	87	C. R. Slater	25	31	16	72
H. Shelton	25	30	24	79	U. McGirr	29	19	23	71
H. A. Brocklesby	28	30	21	79	H. Collins	26	27	18	71

#### NOVA SCOTIA'S INTER-PROVINCIAL TEAM.

The third and final match to select a team to represent Nova Scotia in the inter-maritime competition, to be shot at Charlottetown to-day (Thursday, 12th June), took place on Bedford range on the 5th. The day was a bad one for good shooting. Martinis were used, at 200, 500 and 600 yards. The scores were as follows:—

Capt. Corbin, 63rd	30	33	28	91	Lieut. Stevens, 66th	29	25	27	81
Maj. Garrison, H.G.A.	31	29	29	89	Major Egan, 63rd	29	23	27	79
Capt. Bishop, 63rd	29	27	28	84	Lieut. Flowers, H.G.A.	30	26	22	78
Bom. Campbell, H.G.A.	32	24	28	84	Col. Walsh, 63rd	27	27	23	77
Sergt. Mumford, 63rd	26	33	25	84	Capt. Harris, H.G.A.	26	29	22	77
Sergt. Harris, H.G.A.	27	32	25	84	Sergt. Murray, H.G.A.	30	26	18	74
Lieut. Dimock, H.G.A.	28	33	23	84	Sgt.-Maj. Lockhart, 63rd	26	20	27	73
Capt. Adams, H.G.A.	30	27	25	82	Lieut. Dixon, 63rd	25	28	16	69

The team will be composed of eight men. The total scores are:—

	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	T'l.		1st.	2nd.	3rd.	T'l.
Lt. Dimock, H.G.A.	87	82	84	253	Capt. Bishop, 63rd	76	81	84	241
Maj. Garrison, H.G.A.	87	76	89	252	Lt. Flowers, H.G.A.	79	82	78	239
Bom. Campbell, H.G.A.	81	85	84	250	Capt. Corbin, 63rd	72	73	91	238
Capt. Adams, H.G.A.	85	83	82	250	Sg.-Maj. Lockhart, 63rd	74	67	78	234
Sergt. Harris, H.G.A.	84	80	84	248	Sergt. Mumford, 63rd	76	73	84	233
Major Egan, 63rd	84	80	79	243	Lieut. Dixon, 63rd	75	78	69	222
Lieut. Stevens, 66th	78	83	81	242	Sergt. Murray, H.G.A.	88	57	74	219
Capt. Harris, H.G.A.	91	74	77	242	Lt.-Col. Walsh, 63rd	76	61	77	214

Major-General His Royal Highness Arthur Duke of Connaught, now making a flying trip through Canada on his way to England from India, was born May 1st, 1850. He entered the Woolwich Military Academy as a cadet in 1866, became a lieutenant in the Royal Engineers in 1868, and a lieutenant in the Royal Artillery in 1869, a lieutenant in the Rifle Brigade in the same year, and a captain in 1871. His staff services are: Brigade-major at Aldershot in 1873; brigade-major to the cavalry brigade at the same quarters in 1875, in the October of which year he was appointed assistant adjutant-general at Gibraltar, which post he held until April, 1876. In 1880 he was made a general of brigade at Aldershot. Besides holding other appointments, the Duke is colonel-in-chief of the Royal Rifle Corps and personal aide-de-camp to the Queen. He served for several years in the Dominion as a subaltern in the Rifle Brigade, being stationed in Montreal. He saw active service in Egypt in 1882, being in command of a division at the battle of Tel-el-Kebir. For several years past the Duke has been in command of the forces of the Bengal presidency, which command he has just resigned. He is accompanied by the Duchess of Connaught, General Sir John McNeil, Col. and Mrs. Cavaye, and Dr. Kilkelly. The reception accorded the Duke and Duchess has been very enthusiastic at every Canadian city visited, and the volunteers of Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and Quebec have furnished guards of honour for the occasions.

The Military Rifle League.

Glancing over the scores appearing below, it will be seen that a number of old timers are already well to the front in the race for individual aggregate honours. We had expected to publish the leading individual scores promptly after each match, but have so far been prevented by what cannot be other than sheer neglect on the part of those whose duty it is to forward the official returns to the Secretary of the League. Twelve days after firing we are, from this cause, again compelled to publish an incomplete list of the individual scores made by the teams competing in the second match, fired on the 31st May. It appears that Staff-Sergt. E. A. Cleveland, of the 54th Battalion, has the best aggregate of the two matches, having 176 points to his credit out of a possible of 210. After a six-point drop come two other well known members of the same corps, Lieut. M. H. Healy and Major L. Thomas, each with 170. Gr. T. Pugh and Gr. W. Pugh, of B Battery, and Sgt. Major Case, of the Halifax Garrison Artillery, have each 170 also. Capt. E. D. Adams, of the H. G. A., and Staff-Sergt. Thomas Mitchell, of the Grenadiers, have each 169 points. It will be seen that the contest is very close for the first few, but the drop is very sharp afterwards, when it is remembered that there are 500 competitors; almost a point per man is lost for the first fifteen places. The head man may thank his lucky stars that he has been able to put such a handicap upon the rest.

The official returns so far received make no changes of importance in the totals as received by telegraph. There are but two corrections: the second team of the 6th Fusiliers made 544, not 540; and the 35th Battalion Barrie team 447, not 444.

Except in the case of the 21st Battalion, whose detailed scores were published last week, wherever in the following list the team totals only are given, it is because the details have not yet been received:—

[SECOND MATCH, FIRED 31ST MAY, 7 SHOTS, 200, 500 AND 600 YARDS, SNIDER RIFLES.]

Table with 4 columns: Battalion Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Twenty-First Battalion (820), Fifty-Fourth Battalion, and Eighth Royal Rifles.

Table with 4 columns: B Battery R.C.A. Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Gr. W. Morrison, Gr. W. Pugh, Br. F. Clements, etc.

Table with 4 columns: Battalion Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Thirteenth Battalion, Forty-Fifth Battalion (Lindsay Team), and Forty-Fifth Battalion (Dowmanville Team).

Table with 4 columns: Battalion Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Eighty-Second Battalion, Halifax Garrison Art'y (First Team), and Forty-Fifth Battalion (Dowmanville Team).

Table with 4 columns: Battalion Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Fifty-Third Battalion, Sixty-Third Battalion, and Fifty-Seventh Battalion (Fired Friday).

Table with 4 columns: Battalion Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Fifty-Third Battalion, Sixty-Third Battalion, and Fifty-Seventh Battalion (Fired Friday).

Table with 4 columns: Battalion Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Fifty-Third Battalion, Sixty-Third Battalion, and Fifty-Seventh Battalion (Fired Friday).

Table with 4 columns: Battalion Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Fifty-Third Battalion, Sixty-Third Battalion, and Fifty-Seventh Battalion (Fired Friday).

Table for Ninety-Sixth Battalion with 4 columns: Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Pte. W. K. Cameron, Capt. M. N. Garland, etc.

Table for Twelfth Battalion with 4 columns: Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Stf.-Sgt. A. G. Ronan, Pte. Geo. Thompson, etc.

Table for Forty-Third Battalion, First Team with 4 columns: Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Stf.-Sgt. A. Pink, Lt. E. D. Sutherland, etc.

Table for Victoria Rifles, First Team with 4 columns: Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Pte. McAfee, Sgt. Binmore, etc.

Table for Tenth Royal Grenadiers, First Team with 4 columns: Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Stf.-Sgt. T. Mitchell, Pte. J. Davis, etc.

Table for Gov.-Gen.'s Foot Guards, First Team with 4 columns: Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Pte. R. Tink, Corp. T. Carroll, etc.

Table for Fifty-Third Battalion with 4 columns: Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Capt. J. G. Corbin, Capt. W. Bishop, etc.

Table for Fifty-Seventh Battalion (Fired Friday) with 4 columns: Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Sgt. W. A. Mason, Capt. R. M. Dennistoun, etc.

Table for Sixty-Second Fusiliers with 4 columns: Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Lieut. S. B. Lordly, C.-Sgt. M. B. Henderson, etc.

Table for Queen's Own Rifles, Second Team with 4 columns: Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Sgt. McNeill, Sgt. Argles, etc.

Table for P. E. I. Garrison Artillery with 4 columns: Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Sgt. W. Connolly, Capt. J. A. Longworth, etc.

Table for Montreal Garrison Artillery with 4 columns: Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Gr. M. Cook, Gr. C. Gardiner, etc.

Table for Queen's Own Rifles, First Team with 4 columns: Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Col. Sgt. Crooks, Corp. Westman, etc.

Table for Sixth Fusiliers, First Team with 4 columns: Name, Score 1, Score 2, Total. Includes Sgt. H. Todd, Pte. L. Pratt, etc.

Table for FORTY-FOURTH BATTALION listing personnel and their counts.

Table for THIRTY-SEVENTH BATTALION listing personnel and their counts.

Table for THIRTY-FIFTH BAT'N, ORILLIA TEAM listing personnel and their counts.

Table for B COMPANY INFANTRY SCHOOL CORPS listing personnel and their counts.

Table for CHARLOTTETOWN ENGINEERS listing personnel and their counts.

Table for FOURTEENTH BATTALION listing personnel and their counts.

Table for C COMPANY INFANTRY SCHOOL CORPS listing personnel and their counts.

Table for FIFTH ROYAL SCOTS, SECOND TEAM listing personnel and their counts.

Table for F DIVISION N. W. M. POLICE listing personnel and their counts.

Table for GOV.-GEN.'S FOOT GUARDS, SECOND TEAM listing personnel and their counts.

Table for REGINA RIFLE ASSOCIATION listing personnel and their counts.

Table for VICTORIA RIFLES, SECOND TEAM listing personnel and their counts.

Table for FORTY-THIRD BN., SECOND TEAM listing personnel and their counts.

Table for TENTH ROYAL GRENADIERS, SECOND TEAM listing personnel and their counts.

Table for GOVERNOR GENERAL'S BODY GUARD listing personnel and their counts.

Table for PRINCE OF WALES REGIMENT, FIRST TEAM listing personnel and their counts.

Table for NINTH BATTALION listing personnel and their counts.

Table for A BATTERY R.C.A. listing personnel and their counts.

Table for FORTY-NINTH BATTALION listing personnel and their counts.

Table for SIXTY-FIFTH BATTALION listing personnel and their counts.

Table for FIFTH ROYAL SCOTS, FIRST TEAM listing personnel and their counts.

Table for SIXTH FUSILIERS, SECOND TEAM listing personnel and their counts.

Table for THIRTY-FIFTH BAT'N, BARRIE TEAM listing personnel and their counts.

Table for PRINCE OF WALES RGT., SECOND TEAM listing personnel and their counts.

Table for SASKATCHEWAN RIFLE ASSN listing personnel and their counts.

Table for THIRTY-EIGHTH BATTALION listing personnel and their counts.

Table for THIRTY-FIFTH BAT'N, BARRIE TEAM listing personnel and their counts.

Table for PRINCE OF WALES RGT., SECOND TEAM listing personnel and their counts.

Table for HALIFAX GARRISON ART'Y, SECOND TEAM listing personnel and their counts.

Table for THIRTY-EIGHTH BATTALION listing personnel and their counts.

Table for THIRTY-FIFTH BAT'N, BARRIE TEAM listing personnel and their counts.

Table for PRINCE OF WALES RGT., SECOND TEAM listing personnel and their counts.

The last issue of the Dominion Illustrated is rich both in portraits and in local scenes. The fine view of the Abyssinia, as it arrived at Victoria, B. C., is seasonable and sure to be appreciated.

## Correspondence.

## THE TWENTY-FIRST BATTALION SCORES.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—With reference to correspondence signed "G," expressing grave doubts as to the score of the 21st Fusiliers League Team, made in the last contest, I might say that the competing team was composed of shots belonging to the Essex Centre Rifle Association, with the exception of two men from Windsor and one from Leamington, all being active members of the 21st Fusiliers. The Essex Centre Rifle Association was organized some six years ago, and since that time the members have had regular weekly practice all through the summer months. It is true we have never sent a team to compete in the Dominion or Ontario matches, but last year one of our ordinary shots went to the Ontario matches, and he stood, if my memory serves me rightly, about eighth man in the grand aggregate. Two years ago we built, at our own expense, a range considered by riflemen who have seen it to be one of the best ranges in the Dominion. Every man has his own Turner rifle, and if the old adage "practice makes perfect" is correct, there is no great wonder that we made the good score of eight hundred and twenty points. At the first League Match we made the score of six hundred and twenty-five points in almost a gale, and out of courtesy to two of the officers who attended the match two of our best shots gave way in order to allow the officers to shoot. I must say I think it rather unfair of "G" to doubt the correctness of the score made. It seems like vindictiveness because the Thirteenth Battalion did not take first place. If, however, "G" is still astonished at our team, who have never attended at the Ontario or Dominion matches, making the score of eight hundred and twenty points, I would like the members of the Thirteenth Battalion to issue a challenge to our team for any suitable trophy, and we will show them that it is not really necessary for a team to go to either Toronto or Ottawa to learn the art of shooting.

A. E. JONES, Capt.,  
Captain of Team.

Essex Centre, 10th June, 1890.

## THE ORDER OF FIRING.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—Your answer to letter signed "Toronto" I do not agree with. The D. R. A. have no rule covering the case we all know, but when a man is squadded to fire first on his team, say 2 o'clock at 500 yards, the last pair would be squadded for say 3 o'clock at the same range. Now the men who were squadded 3 o'clock at 500 would not be squadded at 3.20 for 600 yards, but the men who had fired at 2 o'clock would be the first pair on at 600, and I maintain that at the D. R. A. or O. R. A. no competitor would be allowed to do it, for it gives him an advantage over the other competitors.

In the League there is a badge for the highest individual aggregate score. Now no competitor ought to be allowed to try and win that badge by any unfair means. We all know the man who at the last League match at Toronto fired last at 500 and first at 600 would not have given up his place for any man, unless he was going to have some advantage thereby, and I am surprised that one with a record like he has should seek such advantage. "SCOTLAND FOR EVER."

[We would call our correspondent's attention to the fact that the opinion we expressed last week was that a change in the order of firing would be likely to be permitted by a D. R. A. range officer if otherwise a member of a team would be compelled to fire in the dark, and the team thereby suffer. The case would be quite different if only the individual's interests were at stake, or if the apparent object of the change from last at 500 to first at 600 was to give him the advantage of two consecutive scores.—EDITOR.]

## THE BACK POSITION.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—I am informed that the D. R. A. have decided to allow the "back" position at 600 yards this year; if so, is there any reason why the O. R. A. and the M. R. L. should not follow the example, if only for the sake of uniformity? I suppose they will do so next year, but why not this?

Since the back position is considered good at 600 yards, why is it not allowed wherever the prone position is allowed? The Americans use it in skirmishing as well as in regular matches, and it was, I believe, on account of the good scores made by some of the Massachusetts marksmen last year in a skirmishing match that the N. R. A. decided to allow this position.

The back position no doubt has its disadvantages, such as canting, etc., but these are outweighed with me by the fact that the sights appear so clearly. I am not an authority, however. I am learning to shoot, and I have asked the above questions for information. If you or any of your correspondents can afford me a little on the subject, I shall be much obliged.

CORPORAL.

TORONTO, 4th June, 1890.

## The Brass Cannon.

[Taken from *Mélanges d'Histoire et de Littérature* of Benjamin Sulte.]

Which among our archæologists does not know by heart M. Amable Berthelot's article *The Brass Cannon*—found (the cannon) in 1826, in the river, upon a sand bank opposite the parish of Champlain. It has furnished material for controversy in its time. M. Berthelot was not the first comer and a theme flows easily from his pen. This arm was of a pattern so primitive that one would not even place it contemporary with the founding of Quebec, but would put it further back, at least as far as Cartier or Vérazani, for its date of active employment. Argument has been in order to show that it fell from the ships of one or other of these navigators. M. Berthelot says in conclusion: "The history of Canada mentions no shipwreck in these far off times, from which I conclude," &c.

Let us begin by citing a shipwreck well established, between Quebec and Three Rivers during the seventeenth century, more than a hundred years after Vérazani and Cartier. The 21st November, 1646, certain news arrived at Quebec of the greatest disaster which had yet happened in Canada, namely, the loss or wreck of the brigantine which went from Quebec to Three Rivers, in which was a large proportion of the supplies necessary for the magazine, and inhabitants of Three Rivers. This boat was not only lost with all the merchandise on board, but also the nine people it carried as passengers or sailors. "The shipwreck took place," says the *Quebec Register*, "near Cap-a-l'Arbre." In 1646 there were no French houses between Quebec and Three Rivers, save that of M. de Chavigny at Sillery, and that of M. de la Poterie at Port Neuf. Going on further there were two spots known to mariners and the traveller: Cap-a-l'Arbre below the seigneurie of St. Jean d'Eschailion, and l'Arbre-a-la-Croix in the seigneurie of Cap de la Madeleine. This latter spot (of the Hertel manor) could hardly have been inhabited then; clearings have since been made and a house built. In saying that the catastrophe took place near Cap-a-l'Arbre, the journal cannot have meant a point between Cap-a-l'Arbre and Quebec, because it mentions Port Neuf and even Sillery as being not far away. It is probably between Cap-a-l'Arbre and Three Rivers that we must look for the scene of the disaster in question. It was hard by the reef of Champlain, we believe, and there was found two centuries later the brass piece we are speaking of.

At what epoch then was this arm in fashion, and consequently got carried to Canada, where it was lost? This cannon, of a pattern known in the time of Francis 1st, 1525-1530, ought to be really like those which Vérazani and Cartier used, but it does not consequently follow that it was lost by either of those discoverers. Trace of Vérazani ceases near the Gulf of St. Lawrence in 1525. All that can be said after that is contained in the mere probability of a visit of that mariner up the river. Cartier, whose writings are so full of the details of navigation, does not mention having met with any losses or even mishaps between Quebec and Three Rivers. Nothing leads us to connect the *trouaille* of 1826 with any of these voyages. Then, neither the shipwreck of Vérazani, which is altogether problematical, nor the expeditions of Cartier can tell us anything upon the subject. But the loss of the brigantine of 1646 is worthy of attention, because this vessel was lost not far from the place where the brass cannon was fished up.

It may be said that there is nearly a hundred years between Francis 1st and 1646. To our idea that does not imply much, for the manufacture of cannon of large dimensions was in a manner created during this period. We are assured on good authority that guns of small calibre such as that which we are now considering were not at all modified, but that they were content to relegate them to the smaller craft. From the year 1600, or even earlier, the French went up the river as far as Three Rivers, if not beyond, to barter with the savages. From Tadoussac, where they generally left their ships, they journeyed by means of shallops or barges, rowed by half a dozen men at the most, and armed with one or two light pieces that we often find spoken of as swivels (*pierriers* or *espoirs*). These cannon were easily handled, convenient both as to shape and weight, and mounted without expense on pivots, fore and aft of the craft. After the founding of Quebec (1608), of Three Rivers (1634), of Sorel and Montreal (1642), they were in daily use and for many years later. This fact is undeniable. It is known also that at this epoch the same guns were no longer employed in France except for coasters and in the ports; ships on long service carried them with them in order to put them in the shallops in making invasions.

That the pattern had become antiquated is very evident, but they were still used in many places, and above all were available upon the rivers of a colony where they had need of every precaution against the savages, without being at the cost of edifying the barbarians by the sight of arms of a cost and perfection of which they had no artistic comprehension. If, moreover, there then existed pieces of an improved class

in the French marine, we may be very sure that those interested in the trade and colonization of Canada took no pains to procure them, and that, on the contrary, they found it very easy to get next to nothing those of another date, of which they could make good use, although they might not have to turn them except against tribes very much below Europeans in the art of war. Brigantines, like that of which we speak of 1646, were carrying boats for service upon coasts and rivers, low in the hull, sails and oars, and six or seven men as a complement. It was from one of these barges that "the brass cannon" must have fallen into the river.

Since 1826 two or three other little pieces of a similar sort have been taken out of the water between Montreal and Quebec, and that which makes it very evident that they belonged to the river navigation, the coasting service, is that they could not compare either in make or dimensions with the great pieces found below Quebec where oceanic navigation reigns.

Let us next very pertinently inquire how the brass cannon was made. Its length was 3 feet 4 1/2 inches; and its muzzle or chamber 3 inches in diameter. In place of the sight, a bolt or lever of iron of ten and three quarter inches placed at the breech to level by. An iron pivot called "chandelle" (candle) divided in two branches like a fork served to mount it on; it was the same sort of rest as for swivel-guns, since the brass cannon belonged to the class of swivels. The brass of which this piece was made was a very handsome metal, irregularly worked; it was the infancy of the art of cannon founding. Sufficient proof of this may be gathered from the descriptions and cuts of the pieces of the 16th century that are to be found in works upon artillery.

But the most remarkable point about these first products of a genius evoked by the invention of gunpowder, was the mode of charging. The cartridge is put in at the breech, despite our moderns who think they discovered that method. At the place where is the "lumière" or vent of our cannons and the "chimney" of our guns (leaving aside the innovations of the last fifteen years) the "brass cannon" like all its class of those times possessed an aperture in which they shipped a box or moveable chamber which was held solid by an iron bolt. The shot fired, they lifted the bolt, took out the box, in which they placed a new charge, and the whole was replaced for a second fire.

This relic has not been left to us. The Le Chasseur Museum which owned it was destroyed in the Quebec fire. What has become of the other pieces taken from the river and said to be like "the brass cannon?"

S. A. C. (trans.)

Toronto, 15th May.

**Militia General Orders (No. 7) of 30th May, 1890.**

**No. 1.—COMMISSIONS IN THE BRITISH ARMY.**

The conditions under which six commissions, annually, in the Cavalry, or Infantry of the Line, will be allotted to Officers of the Active Militia in Canada, having been amended by Army Order dated 1st April, 1890, applicants for those commissions will be supplied from Ottawa with a copy of that order when applied for through the usual military channel.

A candidate must have served at least 15 months as an officer, and attended two annual trainings.

- a. Must apply for nomination before the 15th January each year.
- b. Must be between the ages of 19 and 22 on the 1st January next preceding the date for examination.
- c. Must undergo an inspection by a Medical Board as ordered.
- d. Must pass the Literary and Military examination prescribed.

The nature and extent of the Literary and Military examinations are stated in the Imperial General Order.

The Literary examination will take place in Canada on the second Tuesday in April each year.

The examination in military subjects, of those who have passed the Literary examination, will be held in Canada in September each year.

Sets of papers for the examinations will be forwarded from England in time for use on those dates. The written answers will be adjudicated upon by the Director General of Military Education, London, England.

If more than the allotted number of candidates are nominated in any year, the selection will be decided by competition in the military portion of the prescribed examination.

Copies of papers used at preceding examinations, for information in respect of them, cannot be supplied from Ottawa.

**No. 2.—REGULATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL DRILL OF 1890-91.**

**Artillery Practice.**—[Here are printed the details of the ammunition allowance for the field artillery practice at Kingston in September; and for the garrison artillery practice to be carried out as subsequently directed. The allowances are the same as last year, except that in practice with the 64-32 pr. R. M. L. guns three trial shots will be allowed in place of two; and when 40 pr. R. B. L. guns are used in the preliminary practice each competitor will fire three common shell in place of two common and one shrapnel; three trial shots will be allowed in place of two.]

**Camps.**—Adverting to No. 1 of General Orders (6) 23rd May, 1890, the places of the camps of exercise in the following districts will be:

Military District Number 1.....	Stratford, Ont.
do do 2.....	Niagara, do
do do 3 & 4.....	Kingston, do
do do 7.....	Levis, Que.
do do 8.....	Moncton, N.B.

The date for the camp of Military District No. 8 has been changed to 30th June.

**Target Practice.**—Paragraph 4 is amended to read as follows:—  
In carrying out target practice, every man will fire 5 rounds at 100 yards, standing, 5 rounds each at 200 yards and 300 yards, kneeling, and 5 rounds at 400 yards, any military position.  
In paragraph 7, line 6, *dele* "and 300," and in line 9 *add* "300 and" after the word "At."  
[No. 3, Appointments and Promotions, and No. 4, Certificates Granted, are crowded out of this issue, and will appear next week.]

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Ambulance Organization, Equipment and Transport, by Surg. Maj. Evatt, M.D.....	40c	3c
Queen's Regulations and Orders for Army, latest edition, 2 vols.....	\$1.00	6c
Otter's Guide for Canadian Militia.....	75c	3c
McPherson's Military Law (Canada).....	\$1.25	3c
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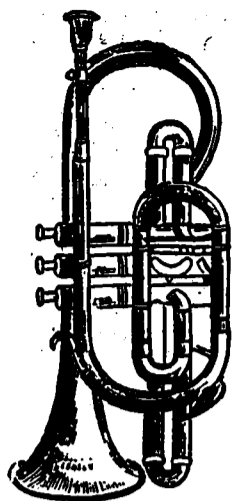
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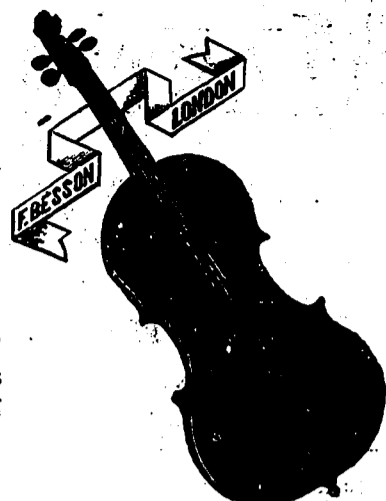
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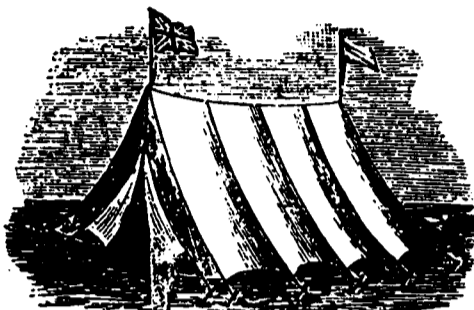
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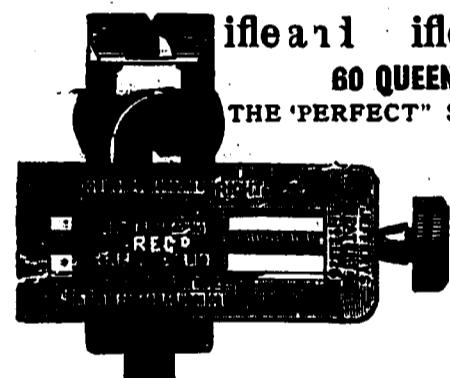
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Extra pay is allowed to a limited number of blacksmiths, carpenters and other artisans.

Members of the force are supplied with free rations, a free kit on joining and periodical issues during the term of service.

Applicants may be engaged at the Immigration office, Winnipeg, Manitoba; or at the Headquarters of the Force, Regina, N.W.T.

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