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Note and Comment.

An excellent plan of availing of the offer of Imperial commissions for young Canadians having some militia training and able to pass the prescribed examinations, is about to be tried by a couple of cadets from the Royal Military College, who having put in two years at that institution will now join the militia for the training required and then present themselves for the examinations, which their two years at College should enable them to pass. Should they desire to do so the cadets will thus be able to utilize the hitherto unused six commissions offered to the militia, as well as the four offered annually to the College, which latter are as a general rule promptly taken up. They go to the cadets first in their classes, and of course there is always uncertainty about who will be first until the term draws to a close.

How attractive military drill may be made, was forcibly illustrated at the Army and Navy Exhibition recently held by the ladies of Ottawa, and to which reference has already been made. They did not by any means confine themselves to the march past or purely exhibition drill, but the most useful Cavalry, Artillery and Infantry practices were performed. A detachment of eighteen young ladies representing the Princess Louise Dragoon Guards went through the sword exercise, pursuing practice and foot parades of cavalry with remarkable success, thanks to the painstaking instruction bestowed by Capt. Gourdeau, who never had smarter recruits. The artillery squad interested and pleased the local gunners and all other beholders by their fine appearance and precise drill. In addition to going through the gun drill for loading and firing two 9-pr. guns, the detachment skilfully performed the operation of mounting and dismounting a light field gun borrowed for the occasion from the Stores department. For smartness, steadiness and accuracy of drill the performance of these young ladies could scarcely have been excelled even by the gallant gunners of our militia. The complicated drill was learned in a remarkably short space of time, with Capt. Bliss, of the Ottawa Field Battery, as the Instructor. The thunders of applause accorded the lady artillerists were a reward well deserved by class and instructor alike. The large detachment representing the Governor General's Foot Guards gave a very pleasing exhibition of fancy drill, marching drill, and physical drill. The performance of the three detachments mentioned above drew immense crowds to the little theatre in the gun shed, and so popular were they that a repetition was given on a large stage in the main hall on Saturday evening, when the other uniformed corps, representing the 5th Royal Scots, the 6th Fusiliers, the 43rd Battalion, the Canadian Navy, and the Nurses of the Hospital on behalf of which the exhibition was organized, joined in a most effective tableau. The uniforms were

without exception, extremely correct, and it goes without saying that they have never been more charmingly set off. It is gratifying to record that the affair was a brilliant success financially as well as artistically.

In an interesting article on the "New Imperialism," the gradual and inevitable outcome of Britain's Colonial development, the *Broad Arrow* thus treats of the changed relations of the Colonies and the Empire: "A new Imperial spirit has been born. It has changed our way of looking at our Colonies, and it has changed the way in which the Colonies look at us. Colonies are no longer regarded as a hindrance and a burden; they are outlets, breeding-grounds, opportunities for the working out of new ideas; they are a source of strength and dignity; they are veritable plantations. All our mother-ideas find in them new fields for development. They extend our language, our literature, our force, our trade, even our personality. Upon their part the Colonists have changed; responsibility has matured them. They feel they are parts of a great Empire, and they are proud of the fact. They have, in one or two instances, sent us soldiers, and they will feel the burden of obligation more as time rolls on its course. They have received much, and they will cheerfully acknowledge the debt. They visit us, and we welcome them. All our politicians, to their credit be it said, join in recognising the good done by Colonial statesmen and governors. We are all Imperialists now, so greatly have events, ideas, and tendencies changed. We are proud of our Empire, we renew our youth, and we challenge comparison with the older Empires that perished as the centre grew effete. Strong in centre and circumference, we face the future in a spirit of buoyant hope and dignified resolution."

The influence of the new smokeless powder upon the conduct of troops in action has recently formed the subject of discussion in the French press. It is urged by the opponents of the innovation that, as far as infantry are concerned, the effect will be decidedly injurious, as the young soldiers of the short-service system lack the experience and training which can alone steady their nerves, and render them indifferent to the terrible scenes of the fight which a friendly curtain of smoke serves to conceal. They also contend that the smoke, by concealing danger, assists the confidence which naked exposure would in the case of young troops utterly destroy, and that there is a stimulant and a tonic in the smoke and smell of gunpowder which sustains the fighting capacity. Noticing these contentions the *Broad Arrow* says: "If we compare these arguments with those adduced by the advocates of smokeless powder, we see at once how little cause there need be for misgiving as to the effect of its introduction into our army. It is perfectly true that the young troops of to-day are naturally deficient in the confidence that only comes by training, and that the sight of danger without the confidence to face it is a cause of weakness; but it has, in our view, a peculiar applicability to British soldiers, being founded on attributes of character which show themselves not only in the soldier but in the race. It is a notorious fact that panic, rare enough with British troops, has never taken place when the exact proportions of danger, however great, are fully exposed. It is only when, from one reason or another, they cannot

measure the force opposed to them that our men lose confidence. When they can clearly perceive it they discover no inclination to evade it, and if smokeless powder is contributory to this end they will welcome it. French critics may be underrating the innate valour of their soldiers when they make so much of the protection to their courage which a 'sulphurous canopy' affords. We think they do, and that when they talk of youthful soldiers being timid they forget Eylau and Bautzen, but we have no sort of doubt that the charm of the invention in the eyes of our men will be that it clears the vision and exposes to them the dimensions of their foe."

Captain Gall, in the second edition of his interesting work on "Modern Tactics," just issued, has something to say on this subject of smokeless powder. He holds that the introduction of smokeless powder will not upset the principles of tactics, but owing to the greater rapidity of fire when the vision is not obscured, and the increased certainty of aim arising from use, and also the difficulty experienced by the enemy in discerning whence the fire proceeds, it must, to a certain extent, change the conditions of warfare. He sums up the advantages of the new explosive as regards artillery and infantry as follows: The positions of batteries in action will not be revealed at long distances by clouds of smoke, and guns will be fired more rapidly and aimed more accurately. The objection to placing guns along the exterior line, in the defence of villages, will be partly removed by the absence of smoke to indicate their presence. The defence of woods will likewise be made easier, and the power of small bodies of troops holding forward positions to delay an enemy's advance will be greater, though they may be more exposed to the view of the enemy when withdrawing from them. Attacking infantry will be able to approach unperceived closer to an enemy and will not suffer so much from artillery fire at long ranges in the absence of smoke to indicate their whereabouts. Defending troops, when firing rapidly at short ranges, will see what is going on in front and will be able to direct their fire upon the enemy's reinforcements when coming up, as the latter will not be hidden behind the smoke of the firing-line."

The Rifle.

The Ottawa Rifle Club had another competition on Saturday afternoon last, with Martinis, at Queen's ranges. The spoon winners were R. Moodie, 93; C. S. Scott, 91; J. E. Hutcheson, 91.

At the matches of the Hamilton Rifle Association, held on the 25th October, F. B. Ross was first, winning the D. R. A. silver medal with a score of 90; E. G. Zealand won the D. R. A. bronze medal with 89, and A. Miller the O. R. A. medal with 86. The following officers were elected: President, Capt. Zealand; vice-president, W. M. Goodwin; secretary-treasurer, A. Murdoch; committee, D. Mitchell, P. T. Robertson, A. Miller, W. H. Clarke.

In the return match between the 21st Essex Fusiliers and the Detroit Light Infantry, which took place at Detroit on the 16th ult., the Canadians were again victorious. The scores stood: 21st—200 yds., 172; 400, 180; 500, 141; total, 493. Light Infantry—200 yds., 169; 400, 180; 500, 136; total, 185. The teams consisted of six men on each side. Of the match the Windsor *Evening Record* says: "When two weeks ago the Canucks won at Essex town with a good score, the representatives of American soldiery were confident that on their own grounds they would be the victors, but they weren't, not much. Our own boys scored a victory and a most satisfactory one, all things considered. The Essex boys have something to be proud of and they are proud too. Two victories over the flower of Michigan!"

The old Stadacona Rifle Association, of Quebec, was re-organized last Thursday at a meeting of about fifty riflemen from "B" Battery, 8th Royal Rifles, 9th Battalion, 17th Battalion, 87th Battalion, Queen's Own Canadian Hussars, Lauzon Rifle Club and Levis Garrison Artillery. The meeting was most enthusiastic and all present supported the motion to re-organize the Stadacona. The following officers were elected: Patron, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor; vice-patrons, D. A. G. of District and Commandant of Garrison. Council, commanding officers of all military corps affiliated to Stadacona, and the following riflemen:

Lieut.-Col. Scott, R. L.; Mr. J. N. Belleau, Q. C.; Major Demers, 17th Battalion; Capt. Pinault, 9th Battalion; Capt. Routhier, 87th Battalion; Capt. Martineau, Levis Garrison Artillery; Lieut. Clint, Queen's Own Canadian Hussars; Master Gunner C. Lavie, B Battery, and T. W. S. Dunn, 8th Royal Rifles.

The annual matches of the Milton (Ont.) Rifle Club were held on the 18th ult., with a rather slim attendance, due to threatening weather and bad roads. In the All Comers' match, 200, 500 and 600 yards, in which there were twelve prizes offered, the chief scores were: Lieut. Robertson, 82; Capt. Panton, 80; Pte. Heaven, 78; Pte. Rymal, 77. In the Extra Series at 200 yards, 10 shots, Lieut. Robertson was first with 46 and Pte. Rymal next with 45.

Belleville.

The annual matches of the 15th Battalion, A.L.I., were shot last month, more competitors than in any previous year taking part. The ranges were 200, 400, 500 and 600 yards. No. 1 Company won the Ponton cup and the Spauzenberg clock. No. 5 Company won the Lazier cup. The Aggregate prizes (including Dominion and Ontario Association medals) were won by: 1, Lieut. S. Vermilyea, No. 5 Co.; 2, B. M. Riggs, No. 1 Co.; 3, Capt. W. N. Ponton, No. 1 Co.; 4, Sergt. T. S. Clarke, No. 1 Co.; 5, Sergt. D. Gibson, No. 1 Co.

A friendly match between teams of seven each from the 15th and 49th Battalions (three ranges) has since been fired. The 49th came off victorious by 29 points after a close and exciting contest. The return match with teams of ten each will be shot on Thanksgiving Day.

The new drill-shed and officers' quarters are much appreciated by visiting members of the force.

Toronto.

The annual rifle matches of the 12th Battalion, York Rangers, took place on Thursday, 30th ult., on the Garrison commons. Although the weather was not favourable to the marksmen, some remarkably good scores were made. Lieut. Curran headed the list in the battalion match with 90 points; he also got first place in the officers' match with 58 points. In the nursery match Pte. Gadsby came first with 83 points. The matches of the McSpadden Rifle Association in connection with F. Co., were fired simultaneously with those of the battalion, and in the Association match Lieut. Brown took first place, having 88 points to his credit. Corp. McVittie came first in "The Wayling" match with 61 points. The Vennell Rifle Association in connection with A company also fired at the same time. Lieut. Curran won the first place in the General match, and Colour-Sergt. Burrill took first place in the Nursery match with a score of 59. The trophy won at the recent League match was presented to the battalion by Staff-Sergt. A. Bell. Lieut.-Col. Wayling replied on behalf of the battalion.

G COMPANY Q. O. R. RIFLE MATCH.

There was a large turnout of the members of this company at the annual rifle match, held on the 18th ult. The conditions were not favourable to high scoring. The chief prize winners were:—

Nursery, 200 (kneeling) and 400 yards, five shots—Pte. Baldwin, 32; Pte. Kerr, 30.

Standing, 200 yards, five shots—Sergt. Thorn, 16; Stf.-Sergt. MacDonald, 16; Pte. Palin, 16.

General, 200 (kneeling), 400 and 500 yards, five shots—Liet. Mercer, 57; Sergt. Thorn, 55; Sergt. Sanson, 51; Pte. Palin, 48.

The aggregate match was particularly interesting by reason of the conditions. There were three prizes given by Capt. Bennett, for recruits, to be awarded for the highest attendance at butt practices and the five highest scores over 30 points. Bugler Thompson gave a prize, open to those who had never won cross-guns, for the six highest scores at 200 and 500 yards. Lieut. Mercer gave a prize for the N. C. O. or man making the greatest number of cross-guns scores at the regular butt practices during the season, not including scores in battalion matches. For this Sergeants Sanson and Thorn tied.

The Challenge Cup, presented by the Mutual Reserve Fund Assurance Co. of New York, and to be won twice before becoming property of the winner, was won by Sergt. J. O. Thorn, with 71 points in the Standing and General matches.

The company did not forget the friends who generously contributed towards the prize list, as the Secretary-Treasurer, Sergt. N. B. Sanson, forwarded to each donor a copy of the list of prize winners, together with a note returning thanks for the prize.

The company had six teams of 4 men each shooting this summer, for individual prizes for the first two teams, with this result: 1st, Sergt. Thorn, Pte. O'Callaghan; Corp. Baynes-Reed, Pte. Smith; 2nd, Sergt. Sanson's team; 3rd, Staff-Sergt. Williams' team; 4th, Lieut. Mercer's team; 5th, Bugle-Major Swift's team; 6th, Bugler Thompson's team.

In the match with E company—the 10 highest scores—"Thirty-Five," otherwise known as "Mutton Lambs," were beaten by G company by 32 points.

THE KOLAPORE SPECIAL MEDALS.

Accustomed to judge the strength of the Wimbledon teams largely by the issue of the one great but brief contest in which the picked men of the Mother Country and the Colonies strive for the championship of the Empire, the Canadian public are always keenly interested in the winning of the Kolapore Cups, and a thrill of pride is felt in all parts of the Dominion whenever the cable announces that our riflemen have achieved that honour. As a matter of fact, the test is not a conclusive one as to the relative merits of a team who may have been successful this year and another who last year may have suffered defeat. The public, however, do not trouble to make analyses of scores or to ascertain averages of shooting or prize winning. They do not appreciate the significance of the winning of high individual prizes by the twenty Canadians competing with the host of riflemen—2,500 strong—gathered at the greatest tournament of the day. But the Kolapore contest is something easy to be understood, and the team happy enough to be successful in it are felt to be worthy of signal honour. And so they are; for while better teams may other years have failed, none but a good team can at any time win. Giving effect to the public feeling, the Dominion Government present, after every Canadian victory, a gold medal to each of the eight men contributing to it. The full-size illustration appearing on this page shows the design of the medal awarded for the fifth Canadian victory, that of 1889. This design was suggested by Lieut.-Col. Thos. Bacon, Secretary of the Dominion Rifle Association, who had the good fortune to command the team; and it will be recognized as strikingly appropriate.

It consists, as will be seen, of an Elephant surmounted by the Imperial Crown—indicative of Imperial India. The clasp, which bears the words "Kolapore—Wimbledon, 1889," is surmounted by a tiger, another Indian emblem. The stripes of the connecting ribbon are dark blue, orange and crimson. The medals are of gold, and of excellent workmanship; they were made under the direction of Mr. C. A. Olmstead, working jeweller, of Sparks street, Ottawa, and were only a few weeks ago delivered to the Association. On the reverse side of each medal there is inscribed the name of the person to whom it is presented.

Just as membership in the Twenty is the great ambition of the participants at the Ottawa meeting, so each member of that Twenty strives to prove himself worthy of a place on the Eight to shoot for the Kolapore cups. The selection is in a measure arbitrary, but the Commandant, in whose hands the choice rests, usually abides by the result of the shooting already made at Wimbledon and at the previous practices in England, in determining at least the first five or six of the eight. These chosen, and there being perhaps half a dozen or more about equally matched from whom to select the other two or three, preference is generally given to the tried hands, who, having already participated in such contests, are best calculated to maintain their nerve until the end. The following were the champions of 1889, in the order of their shooting in the Grand Aggregate:—

1. Qr.-Mr.-Sgt. J. Ogg, 1st B.F.A., Guelph.
2. Lieut. J. A. Wilson, 33rd Bn., Seaforth.
3. Stf.-Sgt. Thos. Mitchell, 10th Royal Grenadiers, Toronto.
4. Capt. S. Maynard Rogers, 43rd Bn., Ottawa.
5. Pte. J. A. Armstrong, G.G.F.G., Ottawa.
6. Major B. A. Weston, 66th Bn., Halifax.
7. Stf.-Sgt. R. McVittie, 10th Royal Grenadiers, Toronto.
8. Stf.-Sgt. Wm. Ashall, Queen's Own Rifles, Toronto.

A better team than this it would be hard to get together from Canada. Not only was there not a single man of doubtful ability in the

eight, but with one exception they were seasoned veterans, accustomed to shoot in the most trying and important contests. There were teams entered from Jersey and Guernsey, but the contest lay, as has always been the case, between Canada and the Mother Country, the last named represented by eight men of world-wide reputation. The details of the match are old news; suffice it to say that Canada took three points lead at 200 yards (245 and 242); gained eight points at 500 (238 and 230); and lost as much at 600 (204 and 212), thus winning a close and exciting contest by the three points gained at the first range. The grand totals were 687 and 684. The Canadian score was precisely that with which the Mother Country won the previous year, and it had only been twice surpassed, the best record being 710, made in 1887; and the next 698, in 1883; both by the Mother Country. The scores of Canadian teams formerly victorious were: In 1872, with Snider, 532 (H. P. S. 672); in 1875, with Snider, 635 (H. P. S. 840); in 1881, with Snider, 609; and in 1884, with Martini, 665.

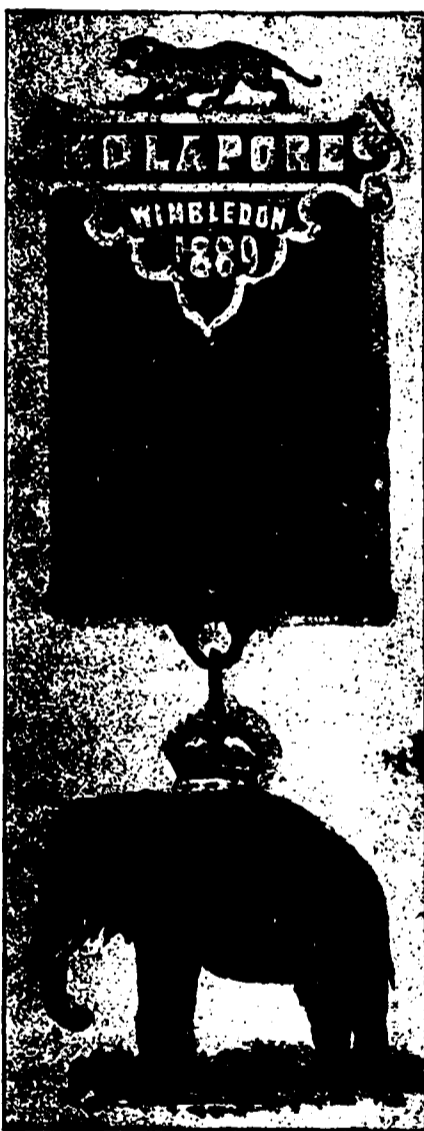
The Canadian victory of 1889 was a source of special pride from, the fact that in this last year of Wimbledon they had repeated the proud achievement of the first team sent thither by the Dominion Association, in 1872. While still engaged in receiving the congratulations of their friends in England, the team were made aware that at home their performance was duly appreciated. The Minister of Militia, Sir Adolphe Caron cabled his congratulations upon their "brilliant success," a like message followed from the Governor-General, Lord Stanley of Preston; and an old friend in far off India, in the person of the Viceroy, the Marquis of Lansdowne, telegraphed "Well done, Canada." Now a few words about the eight men who won the cups, taking them in the order of their scores in this contest:—

1. Pte. J. A. Armstrong has for years been the star shot of a great shooting corps, the Governor-General's Foot Guards. He has been three times at Wimbledon, and time and again has had to decline to go after winning a place on the team, his happy knack of making himself indispensable in business as well as shooting affairs having the effect of keeping him at home. He has twice competed in the final stage of the Queen's. When the Kolapore Cups were last previously won by Canada, in 1884, Pte. (then Staff-Sergt.) Armstrong, was first man in our eight, just as he was in 1889. His score of 89 on the former occasion was the best in the field; and his 91 on the latter was only beaten by Parry, of the English team. Pte. Armstrong has won a place on next

year's team.

2. The name of Quarter-Master Sergeant John Ogg is a household word to all those taking the least interest in Canadian shooting matters, and his face was one of the most familiar on Wimbledon Common where he shot five times; and this year he was found taking part in the inaugural meeting at Bisley, and by for the third time securing a place in the Queen's final hundred stole a march on his friend Armstrong, who had previously tied with him for the best Canadian record for entry into this match. When Canada won the cups in 1881, Sergt. (then Wheeler) Ogg was one of the eight. He is an Artilleryman, but the 1st Brigade of Field Artillery, of Guelph, to which he belongs, is formidable with the rifle as well as with the big guns. He also has won a place on next year's team.

3. Staff-Sergt. Wm. Ashall, of the Queen's Own Rifles, has been four times at Wimbledon. He has a well established reputation as a reliable team shot; and at Wimbledon, on the occasion under review, he earned special notice in the London *Times*, by skilfully putting together



at 500 yards, 33 out of the 35 points possible, this score not being surpassed by any member of the four teams.

4. Capt. S. Maynard Rogers, of the 43rd Battalion Ottawa and Carleton Rifles, in 1889 made his first appearance at Wimbledon, and it was no small compliment to his ability, therefore, to award him a place in the eight. The result showed the choice to have been wise. His comrades report Capt. Rogers to have been the life of the party from beginning to end of the trip, an assertion which none who have had the opportunity of campaigning with him upon the Canadian ranges will be disposed to gainsay. He has had a taste of more serious campaigning, however, having been one of those to volunteer for the company of Sharpshooters raised by Capt. Todd in Ottawa for service in the North-West in 1885.

5. Lieut. J. A. Wilson, of the 33rd Battalion, Seaforth, belongs to a family remarkable for the shooting qualities of its members, three of whom have served on our Wimbledon teams. This was his first appearance, but he too was thought worthy of a place in the Kolapore eight, and creditably acquitted himself in the contest. He has won a place on next year's team.

6. Major B. A. Weston, of the 66th Princess Louise Fusiliers, Halifax, is the widely known Secretary of the Nova Scotia Provincial Rifle Association—one of the most wide-awake organizations in Canada. He has been three times on the team as a competitor, and in 1883 went as Adjutant. He has an enviable reputation as a reliable team shot.

7. Staff-Sergt. Thos. Mitchell, of the 10th Royal Grenadiers, Toronto, belongs to the shooting family *par excellence* of the Dominion. There are five brothers, all crack shots, and for years they have won places on the team with the regularity of clockwork. In 1881 Thos. Mitchell was one of the victorious Canadian eight, and there were three Mitchells on the team that year. He has won a place on the Bisley team for 1891.

8. Staff-Sergt. R. McVittie, of the 10th Royal Grenadiers, is a rifleman famed the world over, his distinction having been earned as Pte. McVittie of the 1st Dumfries, which he left only a few years ago to come to Canada. His score of 102 out of the h. p. of 105 was the record when he left the Old Country, and he had then shot in the final stage of the Queen's eight times—oftener than anyone else. Though well up in years he retains much if not all of his old-time skill, and this year again distinguished himself at the Dominion matches by winning a place on the team for Bisley in 1891.

A notice of the Kolapore contest of 1889 would be incomplete without a word in reference to the Adjutant of the Canadian team, Major (then Capt.) John Hood, of the Fifth Royal Scots, Montreal. This officer has made quite a reputation for himself as a "coach," and it is reasonable to assume that the assistance the Adjutant was able to give to the competitors was of more value to them than the three points by which they won their victory; and such being the case Major Hood is entitled to a fair share of the honour attaching to the event.

Regimental and Other News.

The Victoria Rifles have in contemplation for the near future another grand bazaar, in aid of the Armoury fund.

Plans have been prepared for a substantial armoury and club house building, which the Government are being urged to assist in erecting, for the 57th Battalion at Peterborough. The present armouries, in connection with the drill hall, are quite unfit for use in the wet weather of the spring and fall.

Capt. John Ker, Quartermaster of the 53rd Battalion from 1865 until 1880, when he retired with his present rank, last week left Sherbrooke for England, his boyhood's home, where he will spend the remainder of his days. He served with the Canadian Volunteers in 1837 and 1838, and took part in the Battle of the Windmill. At the time of the Trent affair, in 1860, he joined the Sherbrooke Cavalry as Quartermaster and served with them until in 1865 he was transferred to the 53rd.

The Ottawa *Evening Journal* of Saturday last had an able editorial article advocating that the 43rd Battalion be placed on the footing of a city corps, instead of a rural corps as at present. Four of the six companies are now in the city and suburbs, but it is found difficult to recruit them with a desirable class of city young men, as the latter cannot spare the time to drill in camp. It is forcibly urged that the establishment of another city corps than the Guards in Ottawa, would create a healthy rivalry, which would be greatly to the advantage of volunteering at the Capital.

The annual drill of the 53rd Battalion, Sherbrooke, having been completed recently, the corps was inspected by Lt.-Col. Houghton, D.A.G., and Lt.-Col. Pope, B.M. The men were carefully inspected in

line, the clothing, arms, and accoutrements being carefully examined. The Battalion then formed and marched past at the quick, in column and quarter column, also at the double. Forming line Major Worthington and Captain Fraser put the corps through several movements, after which the companies were formed for the attack drill by Lt.-Col. Morehouse. The men presented a fine appearance and performed the various movements with much steadiness and in good style, and were complimented by Col. Houghton through Col. Morehouse for their soldierly appearance and general proficiency. The prizes for firing were presented at the drill shed in the evening and the N. C. officers were put through the "physical drill" by Sergt.-Major Phillips to music by the band, which was highly enjoyed by the large audience present. No. 4 Co., Capt. Rawson, again won the bugle this year for having the twenty highest shots. Sergt. Bloomfield won the staff officer's prize for the best shot in the Batt., barring the officers. Company medals were also presented for shooting, and after a few words to the men by Col. Houghton an hour was spent in a pleasant dance. The officers were fortunate in securing Sergt.-Major Phillips as instructor as he is an excellent drill and greatly admired by the men. The N. C. officers presented him with a handsome meerschaum pipe, much to his surprise, the presentation being made by Colour Sergeants McAllister and Goodwin on behalf of their brother non-coms. Thus ended the drill and presentation of prizes for 1890.

Toronto.

The annual muster roll call of the Royal Grenadiers was held last Thursday night, when 418 officers, non-commissioned officers and men answered their names. Lieut.-Col. Gray, brigade-major, took the place of the district paymaster Lieut.-Col. Dawson, A.D.C., was in command. A regimental parade was announced for the following Tuesday evening for the purpose of practising the attack. Haversacks will be served out that evening for Thanksgiving day parade. Each man will carry his own rations, but the Quartermaster will arrange for a supply of tea and coffee. The arrangements are being kept secret, as if the exact location of the battlefield were known the crowd would interfere with the operations.

Mr. John I. Davidson, president of the board of trade, who retired from the command of A company, Royal Grenadiers, last spring, gave a dinner to his company at Webb's last week. There were about fifty present, including his successor, Capt. John D. Hay, and Mr. W. G. A. Lambe, who recently retired from the same company. During the evening Capt. Davidson was presented with a beautifully illuminated and bound address, expressing the esteem of the company for him, and their regret at his retirement. One of the scenes in the address is a very good painting of the Garrison Common with a number of men at target practice. The frontispiece is one of the handsomest of its kind ever executed in the city, and the illumination all through is a perfect work of art. Capt. Davidson made a feeling reply, expressing regret that pressure of business and his duties as president of the board of trade compelled him to retire. He would always, he said, take as deep an interest in the regiment as when he was in it. If it should become necessary he would shoulder his musket and go forth in the service of his country again.

QUEEN'S OWN SERGEANTS' MESS SMOKING CONCERT.

Overture	Mr. Carkeek.
Song	Mr. Clements.
Boxing	Paul Patillo and Billy Bittle.
Clarinet Solo	Mr. Wallace.
Song	"Invitation," Mr. Riggs.
Duel	Staff-Sergt. Donnelly and Col-Sergt Cooper.
Song	"Let Me Like a Soldier Fall," Mr. Dent.
Hand Bell Ringers	Selections from Norma..... Toronto Hand Bell Ringers.
Change Act	Prof. Reid.
Boxing	Charley McDowell and "Chuck" Jackman.
Song	Mr. Braham.
Song and Dance	(By Request)..... Mr. Riggs.
Ballet and Grand Finale	Mme. Donnelly, Mme. Cooper, Mlle. Pearson,Caldwell and Burns.

By long odds the most successful smoking concert ever held in Toronto, was tendered by the Mess to their many friends last Thursday evening at their rooms. About 250 were present and the capacity of the quarters was taxed to its utmost. Among those present were Lt.-Col. Miller, Lt.-Col. Hamilton, Major Vidal, I.S.C., Capt. McGee, Lieutenants Knifton, Miller, representatives from the Sergeants' Mess of "C" School and of the Grenadiers. The concert opened sharp on time with an overture by Mr. Carkeek. Criticism on this well known player is out of place, his reputation being well known all over the Dominion. The set-to between Patillo and Bittle, while not very fast or furious, was very interesting and all the scientific points were loudly applauded. Mr. Wallace proved himself a master of the clarinet, and very justly was recalled, the accompaniment by Mr. Carkeek being specially commented on. Mr. Riggs at once became popular, and his description of a "Smoking Concert" given by the European Powers was exceedingly

good and left the audience in splendid spirit for the laughable farce to follow.

On the Sergt.-Major announcing the next item on the programme, Prof. Reid stepped forward and announced that on account of an old standing feud between Messrs. Donnelly and Cooper, a meeting had been arranged and a duel to the death was determined on. Both men looked exceedingly desperate as they stood forward to watch the result of the toss for choice of weapons. Donnelly won and Prof. Reid at once set to work to get the principals arranged for the battle that was to follow. Both men were retired to their corners and eyes bandaged and then amid the boisterous laugh from lots of the spectators who did not seem to be able to appreciate the gravity of the situation, their swords—consisting of long, blown-up bologna bladders were handed the men. Placed back to back, the command was given, "Two paces forward," "March," "Right about turn," "Engage," and then followed one of the most exciting battles ever described in the annals of our time. At times when at close quarters the execution was terrible, again, when about ten yards from each other, one of the combatants would make a cut at space, which if it descended upon one would render him *hors de combat*. Again, one would back into the other, and hot work would follow, very often with the result of compelling the front row of spectators to rise to their feet to ward off the attacks of the combatants. Just when excitement was raging very high, the door of the refreshment room was burst open and two policemen made their appearance and took a hand in the fun, much to the surprise of the spectators, many of whom expressed an inclination to interfere, thinking that Inspector Archibald had carried the thing a little too far; however, in the scuffle, one of the Cop's helmet fell off and the white pate of Prof. Reid was disclosed, and then, amid deafening applause, the duellists were carried into limbo by the strong arm of the law.

A song, "Let me like a soldier fall," by Mr. Dent, was encored, in response to which he gave "Then you'll remember me." Mr. Dent is quite a favourite with the Mess, and although he appeared handicapped by playing his own accompaniment, yet he acquitted himself most creditably. A selection from "Norma," by the Toronto Hand Bell Ringers, was well received, and these gentlemen, now only about a year organized, have a bright prospect before them. Lightning change acts, by Prof. Reid, were quite up to the Professor's old time reputation, his sword dances and Turkish rifle exercise being especially fine. A dulcimore solo followed by Mr. Meldrum, and in turn was quickly followed by a lively set to by Charley McDowell and "Chuck" Jackman, in which both contestants warmed to their work, and J. F. Scholes, in his capacity of referee, gave them full benefit as to time, much to the delight of the audience. A piano solo by Mr. Carkeek, giving an imitation of a brass band, followed, his closing piece of "The girl I left behind me," being something out of the common. As Billy had only appeared from the dressing rooms it was quite appropriate, for, in response to an encore, he again seated himself at the instrument and struck up selections from "Faust up to date," whereupon the "Girls he left behind him" danced upon the stage, and before the audience had recovered from their surprise, the ballet was well under way, and by the time the premiere danseuse, Mme. Cooperino, made her appearance, round after round of applause drowned the music and nothing but good training could have kept the ballet together. The scene was funny, too funny in fact to describe and, dear reader, you will indeed have a lively imagination if you can picture to yourself an assemblage of good jolly fellows, all wooing the fragrant weed, and having no idea of what was to follow, to have the door suddenly open and a troupe of nice fresh looking girls, that would make the London Gaiety girls turn green with envy, waltz into the room. The dancing of Mme. Cooperino was especially worthy of comment. The applause had barely subsided when in a moment the formation so familiar to us all in the bills of the troupe, formed as in file, endeavouring to kick anything high or low, either to the right or left of them, was completed, and when the lights were turned down and coloured ones lit in the rear, the scene was one which will live in each one's memory for many a long, long day, and each one of us find ourselves at odd moments laughing immoderately, as visions of that dance come before us. A formation in pyramid form, more red fire, and the drop of the curtain, carried us back again to the old quarters, where exclamations of delight passed from one to another and the appearance of the "girls" a few moments after, brought forth congratulations on all sides. As was announced in the course of the evening, the Concert Committee went to an enormous expense in bringing the troupe to Toronto, the members of the troupe being picked from all parts of the world and each one being not without glory in her own country. Mlle. Cauldwello being from St. Petersburg, Mlle. Pearsoni and Burnsino claiming Paris as their home, while Mme. Donnelly and Cooperino came from Hamilton and Port Hope respectively.

The concerts will be held each month throughout the winter, and to judge from the initial one success is assured. BREECH BLOCK.

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The result of the experiments that prompted the pecuniary award to the inventor (who, it may be mentioned to his credit, immediately distributed it in organized charity), was so surprising, that to accept the official report which follows, it exacted the admiration of even the leading gunmakers of St. Etienne, the small-arms Birmingham of France.

The report addressed to the Chamber of Commerce of the above-named town, by the experts detailed to watch the trials, is as follows:—

"The new ballistic system for ordnance of every kind submitted by M. Paul Giffard, consists in the utilization of liquid gases. Neither fulminates, explosive substances, nor powders of any kind will be longer required. All risks of bursting of chambers and barrels in fire-arms are avoided in the Giffard system, which produces neither heating, smoke, nor fouling. Your committee could but seriously consider a specimen saloon-rifle, but whose pattern, however, may be safely and definitively adopted. There were also essayed some models of sporting guns and pistols, in a state of further modification.

"But the rifle your committee had principally to examine had a cartridge, or rather metal recipient containing the liquid gas. At every pull of the trigger a drop or more of the liquid gas (according to desire) was ejected, and sent the successive missiles with far superior precision to other fire-arms actually used from the shoulder, an advantage apparently due to the entire absence of fouling in the tube (barrel). The recipient (cartridge) examined by your committee contained enough liquid gas to discharge 300 shots to the range of 97½ feet. If a shorter distance became necessary, the proportion of the liquid gas emitted could be controlled to ensure from 4 to 500 consecutive shots, and for longer ranges, the weight of the single drop could be manually dispensed according to the degrees of range, but in this case the rifle could only discharge from 150 to 200 shots.

"The filtering of the gas in infinitesimal drops is regulated by a screw which arrests the hammer (*chien*), and prevents it from sending home the piston farther than may be desired into the recipient, for the ejection of the liquid into the chamber, and a gauge on the breech of the barrel guides the marksman to obtain the necessary tension of propulsive force for the estimated range. After the discharge of 300 shots we (the committee) verified the interior of the grooved barrel to be as bright and clear as before firing. There will be no occasion for cleaning the barrels, like the rifles of the present day."—*Volunteer Record*.

Gleanings.

At the termination of the German army manœuvres in Silesia, the Emperor determined upon replacing two or three guns in each field battery by mitrailleuses on the Maxim model.

The lance, as an arm of warfare, is to be discontinued entirely in the Austrian and Russian cavalry. This is one of the new measures prompted by the invention of the smokeless powder, which in the minds of the military authorities in those countries will henceforth render impossible all encounters with cold steel.

The cartridge pouch hitherto used by the French infantry forces since 1884, is to be withdrawn and replaced by a new and larger sized receptacle for rifle ammunition. The old pouch was only 24 x 16 cubic inches in capacity, whilst the approved substitute measures 220 cubic inches and will contain nine times the number of cartridges. The belt slides are done away with, as the now approved pouch will be worn slung over the shoulder, instead of being, as heretofore, attached to the waist.

One of the points especially noted by military observers during the recent manœuvres, when smokeless powder was used, was that in the clear atmosphere, unobscured by the smoke of battle, all bright accoutrements were seen at a great distance, thus betraying the positions of the various bodies of troops. In consequence of this both the French and Germans are considering the advisability of having the helmets of the dragoons, the scabbards of officers and soldiers, and even the cuirasses bronzed so as to dull their brightness. Some think, however, that the idea of a loose war dress is preferable, with smart uniform or garrison purposes.

Even the soldier who has never been on horseback can easily be taught in a week or two to keep his seat over rough ground, and to sit so as to avoid giving his horse a sore back. The danger in instruction of mounted infantry is lest officers and men should think it is intended to convert them into cavalry. With the exception of the most elementary instruction in riding and in stable duties all they have to learn that is not in every essentially the infantry soldier's work are those outpost, and scouting, and reconnoitring duties that can only be efficiently carried out by mounted men.—*Lord Wolseley*.

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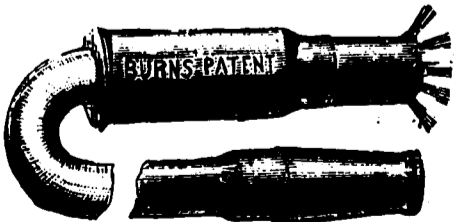
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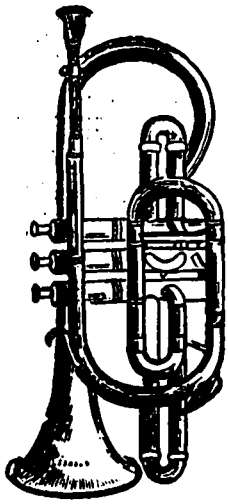
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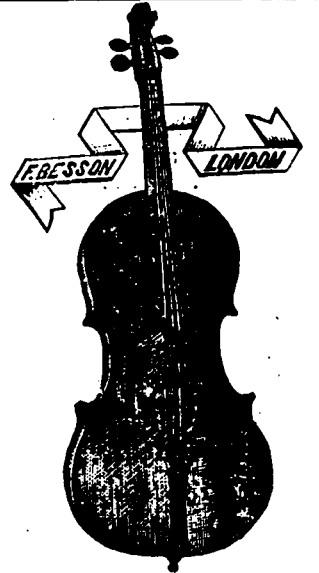
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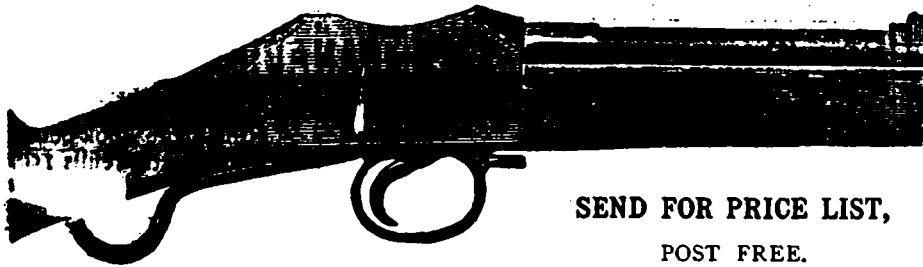
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Hoist and Wire Ropes Spliced.



MONEY ORDERS.

MONEY ORDERS may be obtained at any Money Order Office in Canada, payable in the Dominion and Newfoundland; also in the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, Portugal, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, India, Japan, the Australian Colonies generally.

On Money Orders payable within Canada the commission is as follows:

If not exceeding \$4	2c.
Over \$4, not exceeding \$10	5c.
" 10, " " 20	10c.
" 20, " " 40	20c.
" 40, " " 60	30c.
" 60, " " 80	40c.
" 80, " " 100	50c.

On Money Orders payable abroad the commission is:

If not exceeding \$10	10c.
Over \$10, not exceeding \$20	20c.
" 20, " " 30	30c.
" 30, " " 40	40c.
" 40, " " 50	50c.

For further information see OFFICIAL POSTAL GUIDE.

Post Office Department, Ottawa.

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