

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

A Weekly Journal devoted to the Interests of the Active Force of the Dominion.

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THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE, P. O. Box 316, Ottawa, Ont.

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## The Militia Expenditures.

Once more the militia are entering upon their annual drill, determined cheerfully to make the best of the slim appropriation set apart for their training and maintenance, but noting with regret that another year has passed without improvement in this respect. It cannot be said, however, that the prospect has not brightened, for the most substantial grievance felt by the force is believed to have very nearly approached the vanishing point during the session of Parliament just concluded. A number of military members, aware of the futility of attempting to satisfactorily maintain corps only called together for drill every second year, enlisted the sympathies of many civilian representatives in the Commons, and so convincingly presented their case to the Government that at one time it was quite confidently expected an appropriation would be asked sufficient to drill the whole force this season. The Minister of Militia was known to be sparing no effort to secure such a concession for his department, and his colleagues seemed on the whole well affected towards the request. But the supplementary estimates appeared without including the expected extra amount of \$175,000; and the realization of the hopes raised was deferred for the time being. The reason has not been stated, but we believe the omission was not the result of any change of opinion as to the advisability of the proposed new departure, but rather on account of unexpected increase in necessary expenditure for other purposes. It is to be hoped, therefore, that out of the increased revenue anticipated the Government will be able to recommend a larger military appropriation whilst still adhering to the wise policy of keeping the ordinary expenses of government within the revenue. The balance sheet presented by the Finance Minister for a few years past, and his expectations as to the financial operations of the next two years, are certainly very encouraging, and warrant the hope that there will be no lack of funds available for this useful purpose. The enthusiasm of its members has kept the force up to a creditably high standard, and it is only just to expect that, in these days of general prosperity, there should be an increase in the military expenditure commensurate with the growth of population and larger revenue of the country. Instead of this the appropriations have remained stationary or have actually decreased so far as the militia in general are concerned, the permanent force taking of late so large a share of the money. The

schools established in connection with this force have been of immense benefit to the militia, but their advantage has been lessened by the fact that, in a great number of the rural corps especially, the officers have been so discouraged by the scanty support received from the Government that they have lost ambition to qualify at the schools. In such cases the promise of annual drills would be electrical; and the motive power thus furnished would send the provisional officers flocking to the schools in such numbers that those institutions could scarcely take them in.

It is too much the fashion, amongst even well informed people, to decry military expenditure as unnecessary, because of the improbability of our ever being called upon to do any fighting. Past experience in Canada has shown how imperative it is to have a willing force organized and equipped for service at a moment's notice; and no one can say how near or far removed may be the next occasion upon which the militia may be called upon to take the field: it is the unexpected that happens. If, however, there could be a certainty that their services would never be required, Canada would be more than repaid for the expenditure upon her militia by the advantage the training is to the young men of the country. The wholesome discipline to which the soldier has to submit is of incalculable benefit to him in after life; and even one season's drill effects such an improvement in the physique and general bearing as to produce a marked superiority in the physical appearance of the youth of any locality where military institutions flourish. Fired with enthusiasm by the parades of their older brothers, or perhaps their fathers, the school boys have of late taken up military drill to an extent which promises great results in the future, if sufficient encouragement is given to maintain life in the movement.

Since the members of the militia derive this personal advantage from their connection with the force, it may be urged that self interest should prompt them to give their services without further recompense. Those who so argue are probably not aware of the heavy cost to the members at which many corps are now maintained. In fact the financial sacrifices made by the militiamen are very little understood or appreciated; and we will take occasion shortly to present to the public some interesting particulars as to the excess of the cost of volunteer soldiering over the modest contribution of the public through the Government.

## The Leaders of the League.

In giving space, as we have done, to letters from responsible correspondents pointing out how the Military Rifle League regulations might be improved, it has been with the hope that the letters might be taken in the friendly spirit in which we are sure they were written. We entirely agree with the contention that there should be a check upon the markers, supervision being more necessary at the butts than at the firing points. As the Secretary intimates in his letter in another place in this issue, if there is a combination to cheat no regulations can prevent it; there is, however, little danger of such combination, but what should be guarded against is dishonesty on the part of individual markers who might add points if left to themselves but would be

ashamed to do so if checked by any more responsible person in the butts. We would be sorry to think that any officer or non-commissioned officer in the force would connive at dishonest marking to favour his own corps or injure another, and would strongly urge that an officer or non-com., even though he be of necessity from the corps participating, be placed in the butts to check the marking in League matches.

At the same time there are, in our opinion, no reasons for suspicion of queer practice in the two matches already fired. Apart from the high character of the men participating, of many of whom we have personal knowledge, the scores of the leading teams carry a certificate of honesty upon their face, especially when the returns are analysed shot or shot. Often we have had occasion to compliment the Twenty-first Battalion, the leaders in the second match, upon their efficiency in other respects, and knowing the enthusiasm they have for soldiering, from the commanding office down, it is with special pleasure we note the manner in which they have distinguished themselves with the rifle, for the first time, we believe. We have heard that their range favours them; if so, there is no corps more worthy of favour. As for B Battery, they are entitled to special credit for turning out from their total strength of 150, a team of ten superior to the crack teams of many a crack corps with far better facilities for acquiring skill with the rifle. We commend B Battery's achievements to the attention of the permanent corps particularly. As for the 54th, who now hold first place in the League aggregate, they are well known as a strong shooting organization, and are bound to be dangerous competitors.

By an error of the printer, a wrong date was placed at the head of the list of "Certificates Granted" appearing in last issue. The General Order in which the list was published was No. 5, of 9th May, 1890.

### Changes in the Drill Books.

Army orders just issued prescribe the following changes in Infantry and Artillery Drill, to be observed in the Imperial force:—

#### MANUAL EXERCISES FOR THE RIFLE AND CARBINE, 1885.

A.O. 163—ALTERATIONS.—The following alterations will be made in the Manual Exercises for the Rifle and Carbine, 1885:

Page 11, line 2, *dele* "at the same time place the hollow of the right foot against the left heel, both knees straight."

Page 11, line 26, *dele* "at the same time bring the right foot to its original position."

Page 12, line 1, *dele* "at the same time bring the right foot to its original position."

#### FIELD ARTILLERY DRILL.

A.O. 164—ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS.—The following amendments will be made in the Field Artillery Drill, 1889, issued with Army Order 128 of 1889:

Vol. I.—Page 43.—Line 14, *after* the word "upwards," *omit* remainder of paragraph, and *substitute* "the right arm hanging easily straight down from the shoulder with the fingers half closed, back of the hand outwards."

Vol. III.—Page 123.—Line 12, *after* the word "The," *insert* "subdivisions of the."

Line 13, *for* "wheels," *read* "wheel."

Line 14, *after* the word "The," *insert* "subdivisions of the"; *for* "wheels," *read* "wheel."

Page 124.—*Omit* second paragraph from bottom of page, as amended by Army Order 439 of 1889, and *substitute* "at the word 'march,' the subdivisions of the right section wheel about and move to the rear dressing by the right, the subdivisions of the remaining sections wheel to the right, and again to the right in succession on coming in rear of the head of the column."

Line 5 from bottom, *after* the words "batteries the," *insert* "subdivisions of the."

Line 4 from bottom, *after* the words "Artillery the," *insert* "subdivisions of the."

Page 132.—Line 7, *after* the word "forward," *under* heading "Section Commanders," *insert* "sub-divisions."

## THE MILITARY RIFLE LEAGUE.

### The Second Match Fired Under More Favourable Weather Conditions.

Another New Team to the Front—The Windsor Mills Team again score high, and take a good lead—Halifax well up—The League Secretary Answers Mark IV—B Battery's Master Gunner also heard from—Miscellaneous Notes.

Under weather conditions considerably more favourable than those of the former occasion, the second match of the Canadian Military Rifle League was fired on Saturday afternoon last. The returns received by telegraph indicate that 52 teams fired, these including all who took part in the first match, and three new teams, the G.G.F.G. 2nd, the 1st P.W.R. 2nd, and the 49th Battalion. The weather appears to have been generally fine, except for a fishtail wind, which must have been valuable as an experience, even if it did diminish the scores. The only serious complaints heard, as will be seen in the weather report appended, are from Charlottetown, St. John, N.B., and Regina, and a comparison of the scores there made with those of the previous Saturday shows that there was some adverse influence at work in Charlottetown and Regina, at least. St. John did fairly well with an average of 68, an improvement of 8 points per man.

The match resulted in another surprise, so far as the leading team is concerned, the post of honour being taken this time by the Twenty-first Battalion, Essex Fusiliers, with the big score of 820 points. The detailed scores hereto appended show that the strength of the 21st lay particularly in the 200 yards shooting, the weak point with many crack teams. The 54th Battalion, leaders in the previous match, this time tie for second place with the 8th Royal Rifles, their score being 799. The 54th are first in the aggregate, and have increased their lead from 10 to 52 points. The Halifax Garrison Artillery maintain second place in the aggregate, with the good lead of 39 points over the next team, that of B Battery, who improved upon their high score of the first match, when they won fourth place, and now stand third in the aggregate. They have a lead of 42 points over the 13th Battalion, who have risen from seventh to fourth place. The fifth team in the aggregate is that of the 63rd Rifles, formerly holding third place. The big score of the 21st Fusiliers has raised them from the sixteenth to the sixth place. The 8th Royals, Quebec's old time sharpshooters, have risen from fourteenth to seventh. The 96th Battalion show it was more than chance that placed them ninth in the first match, the combined scores of the two putting them one place higher. The 12th Battalion still lead the way for the Toronto corps, and have gone up one place to eleventh in the aggregate. The Grenadiers first team have moved from thirteenth to fourteenth. The Queen's Own Rifles first team have dropped from eighteenth to twenty-first, but their second team, leading the first by 23 points in the match on Saturday, are now twenty-third in place of twenty-sixth. The Ottawa teams are close together, the Guards having risen from twentieth to seventeenth and the 43rd Battalion from twenty-fourth to eighteenth. Montreal's ill fortune continues, but her teams have nearly all improved their position, the leaders, the Victoria Rifles, being twenty-second in place of twenty-eighth. The two teams of the 45th are showing well to the front, Lindsay rising from eleventh to ninth and Bowmanville from seventeenth to thirteenth. Amongst the most noticeable "drops" are the Saskatchewan Rifle Association from the fifth to the sixteenth place; the 57th from the sixth to the twelfth; the Charlottetown Engineers from the tenth to the nineteenth; and the 90th Battalion from the fifteenth to the twenty-fifth.

#### THE WEATHER.

The following are the reports received of the weather, wind and light: Barrie, fine, gusty, light good; Belleville, fine, variable, light bright; Bowmanville, clear, fishtail, light bright; Brantford, fine, fishtail, light bright; Charlottetown, misty, squally, light dull; Essex Centre, fine, gusty, light bright; Halifax, fair, front, light dull; Hamilton, fine, fishtail, light bad; Kingston, fine, variable, light bright; Lindsay, cloudy, mild, light good; Montreal, fine, variable, light bright; Ottawa, hot fishtail, light bright; Niagara Falls, fresh, strong, light bright; Peterborough, fine, moderate, light bright; Port Arthur, fair, fishtail, light very variable; Prince Albert, fine, gusty, light variable; Quebec, fine, strong, light dull; Regina, cold, rain, gale, light bad; Sherbrooke, fair, light variable; St. John, N.B., rain, squally, very dark; St. John's, Q., fair, fishtail, light

bright; Toronto, fine, variable, light bright; Windsor Mills, fine, steady, light bright; Winnipeg, mild, strong, light clear; York, fine, light variable.

The match on Saturday last was, as all the series will be, fired with the Snider rifle, at 200, 500 and 600 yards, seven shots at each range; regimental teams of ten men. Here are the details of the scoring of the first team, that of the

TWENTY-FIRST BATTALION, ESSEX FUSILIERS,

who fired at Essex Centre. The weather was fine, the light good, the wind gusty, eleven o'clock, and the fouling moist. The range officer was Major J. H. Beattie, of the 27th, and the captain of the team Capt. A. E. Jones, of the 21st:—

Pte. G. McKenzie.....	5455545—33	2344553—26	3454555—31	90
Pte. S. B. Green.....	5555445—33	2533455—27	3552535—28	88
Sgt. S. McAnanny.....	4545545—32	4554455—32	3305435—23	87
Sgt. J. C. Dixon.....	5454555—33	5435545—31	0445334—23	87
Pte. A. J. Green.....	5554545—33	5503225—22	3545455—31	86
Pte. O. Dow.....	5454445—31	4023245—20	5354554—31	82
Corp. H. McGregor.....	3555444—30	5343555—30	4353222—21	81
Pte. W. R. Elliot.....	4453344—27	3453425—26	3552335—26	79
Stf.-Sgt. A. Gow.....	5455443—30	3353525—26	5420025—18	74
Corp. T. Dresser.....	5454454—31	3504404—20	4200450—15	66
Totals.....	313	260	247	820

STANDING OF THE TEAMS.

The teams are given below in the order in which they now stand, the team totals of the first and second matches being published, together with the aggregate. Next week the individual totals will be given, the teams then being placed in the order of their scores in the second match. This is how they now stand in the aggregate:—

	17th May.	31st May.	Aggregate.
1. 54th Battalion.....	807	799	1606
2. Halifax Garrison Artillery.....	797	757	1554
3. B Battery R. C. A.....	748	767	1515
4. 13th Battalion.....	688	775	1463
5. 63rd Battalion.....	756	696	1452
6. 21st Battalion.....	625	820	1445
7. 8th Royal Rifles.....	634	799	1433
8. 96th Battalion.....	677	747	1424
9. 45th Battalion, Lindsay.....	652	769	1421
10. 53rd Battalion.....	683	724	1407
11. 12th Battalion.....	648	744	1392
12. 57th Battalion.....	688	694	1382
13. 45th Battalion, Bowmanville.....	623	755	1378
14. 10th Royal Grenadiers, 1st team.....	638	732	1370
15. 82nd Battalion.....	610	757	1367
16. Saskatchewan Rifle Assn.....	738	619	1357
17. Gov. General's Foot Guards, 1st team.....	614	731	1345
18. 43rd Battalion, 1st team.....	576	738	1314
19. Charlottetown Engineers.....	653	633	1286
20. 62nd Fusiliers.....	598	681	1279
21. Queen's Own Rifles, 1st team.....	622	657	1279
22. Victoria Rifles, 1st team.....	528	733	1261
23. Queen's Own Rifles, 2nd team.....	569	680	1249
24. F. Division N. W. M. P. ....	616	633	1249
25. 90th Battalion.....	628	600	1228
26. P. E. I. Garrison Artillery.....	551	672	1223
27. Halifax Garrison Artillery, 2nd team.....	600	600	1200
28. 43rd Battalion, 2nd team.....	528	630	1158
29. 6th Fusiliers, 1st team.....	512	637	1149
30. Montreal Garrison Artillery.....	439	665	1104
31. 10th Royal Grenadiers, 2nd team.....	526	565	1091
32. 37th Battalion.....	491	590	1081
33. 5th Royal Scots, 1st team.....	448	608	1056
34. Regina Rifle Assn.....	571	465	1036
35. 44th Battalion.....	395	634	1029
36. 9th Battalion.....	403	622	1025
37. 14th Battalion.....	424	570	994
38. C Company I. S. C.....	511	468	979
39. A Battery R. C. A.....	414	559	973
40. 6th Fusiliers, 2nd team.....	427	540	967
41. 38th Battalion.....	390	507	897
42. 35th Battalion, Orillia team.....	413	482	895
43. 35th Battalion, Barrie team.....	356	444	800
44. Governor General's Body Guard.....	325	462	787
45. B Company I. S. C.....	317	437	754
46. 5th Royal Scots, 2nd team.....	292	426	718
47. Victoria Rifles, 2nd team.....	257	421	678
48. 1st P. W. R., 1st team.....	254	389	643
49. Gov. General's Foot Guards, 2nd team.....	Did not fire	569	569
50. 49th Battalion.....	"	455	455
51. 65th Battalion.....	139	238	377
52. 1st P. W. R., 2nd team.....	No return	209	209

NOTES.

To add to the interest of the regimental shooting, the Grenadiers formed a third team, of men held in reserve for the first and second. They made a total, on Saturday last, of 478, made up as follows: Pte. Fox 64, Pte. Hart 60, Sgt. Smith 58, Corp. Stenman 51, Pte. Dunbar 49, Corp. Patterson 48, Stf.-Sgt. Hutchinson 39, Sgt. Rogers 37, Pte. Bowman 37, Pte. Shand 34. The captain of the team, Capt. C. Greville-Harstone, scored 61 points.

The secretary of the League would like to be notified by such teams as desire to fire the fourth match in camp.

By request, the D. A. G. of the Second Military District has appointed Lieut. A. D. Cartwright, 47th Battalion, as executive officer for League matches at Toronto.

The Ontario corps are going to apply for leave for the League teams to leave camp on Friday, the 27th, so as to be ready for the match on the 28th.

THE ORDER OF FIRING.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—The following incident took place at the 2nd League match: A member of a competing team who was in the last pair to fire at 500 yards, was put on the first pair at 600 yards to help him to put on a larger score, there being better light than when he shot in his turn. Several of us would like to know if this is allowed in team shooting according to the D. R. A. rules. Kindly answer.

TORONTO.

Ans.—The D. R. A. have no special rule covering this point, any desired departure from the fixed order of precedence being left to the range officer to decide upon. We fancy that if a member of a team, firing last at 500 yards, were likely to be compelled to fire in the dark at 600 if last there, the range officer would allow any change which could be effected with another competitor.—EDITOR.

INFORMATION FOR "MARK IV."

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—In answer to "Mark IV." I beg to state that the Executive fully discussed the idea of making it compulsory to have a disinterested party in the markers' butts during the matches, but came to the conclusion that when several teams are firing it was unnecessary, and where only one team is firing, where would you find a disinterested party in the town from which said team came? It would be necessary to bring some person from a town in which a competing team was, and this would only add greatly to the expense and even then one person cannot watch more than two targets in the narrow space there usually is in the markers' butts. If a team wish to cheat they can easily manage it, no matter how many are watching. If we had thought of it we could easily have had a clause by which a man's father, or brother, etc., would be forbidden to mark, but how is a range officer to find out if a competitor has any relations in the markers' butts. These competitions are left largely to the honesty of those competing, and so far there has been nothing to show that everything that has taken place has not been fair and honest.

The reason why B Battery were allowed to fire at 10 a.m., May 17, was that the Battery had a special duty to perform in the afternoon and could not have taken part. We must make certain allowances for the regulars.

The markers, I have ascertained, were those regularly employed on the range, and in no way connected with the Battery.

WM. R. PRINGLE,  
Secretary League.

Toronto, 2nd June, 1890.

B BATTERY'S CASE.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—With reference to the letter of Mark IV. in your last issue, permit me to state in your columns for the information of all concerned, that after permission to enter for the League matches had been granted by the Commandant, and the team had been selected, an unexpected request was made by H. H. the Lieut.-Governor of the Province for the services of the band to play at Spencer Wood for an afternoon reception, with which the Commandant, as a matter of courtesy, was anxious to comply. This would take away four at least of our best shots, and entirely demoralise the proposed entry. As the Commandant was desirous of encouraging rifle shooting in the Battery and the entry of a team from this corps, he was good enough to telegraph on the 15th ult. to the secretary of the League to allow us to shoot in the morning of the appointed day, which telegram was answered in the affirmative by the courteous secretary of the League.

We were ourselves very disappointed at having to shoot in the morning, as the light is entirely different, the Levis ranges lying west to east, and we had had no morning practices, but preferred doing so to being out of the match entirely. The wind was blowing a stiff gale (4 of the team shooting outside the left upright at 500 and 600 yards), and there was considerable grumbling at our ill luck. However, the fortunes of war resulted in a thoroughly nasty afternoon, dark and wet, though the wind dropped considerably, so we had had the advantage of shooting in dry clothing as against our gallant local opponents of the 8th Rifles, and apparently most other teams elsewhere. This, I submit, was pure chance.

With regard to the question of markers, the use of the range and markers was asked for officially from the D. A. General of the district, and he detailed the Government markers (not members of the battery at

all) ; we refrained from sending a man into the butts to check them, as we were shooting alone and wished to be beyond suspicion in the matter of signalling.

Capt. Lessard, of the Royal School of Cavalry, came over as range officer at considerable inconvenience to himself, and brought with him as register keepers two N.C. officers of volunteer cavalry going through a short course at his school. For any question as to fairness in marking, I must refer your correspondent to him for further information as he took entire charge of the scoring and score sheets.

The result of the second match shot before keen rivals and numerous spectators, will I hope convince "Mark IV." that there is a fair presumption of honest dealing in the first.

I quite agree with "Mark IV." in his desire to have everything as strict as possible, and the more stringent the system of checking the better pleased the team from B Battery will be.

CHAS. LAVIE, Master Gunner,  
Team Captain, B. Battery, R.C.A.

Citadel, Quebec, 2nd June, 1890.

#### THE DELAYED SCORES.

The following are details of scores made in the first League match, fired on the 17th May, which we could not publish with the rest last week in consequence of the undue delay by the team captains in forwarding them :—

**SIXTY-THIRD BATTALION.**—Capt. Bishop 82, Capt. Silver 81, Sergt. Elliot 79, Sergt. Lockhart 78, Sergt. Stenhouse 78, Sergt. Mumford 78, Capt. Crane 74, Capt. Corbin 74, Lieut. Blackmore 67, Corp. Longueuil 65 ; total 756.

**SASKATCHEWAN RIFLE ASSOCIATION.**—Jno. Stewart 83, F. C. Baker 82, Dr. Williamson 81, R. J. Pritchard 78, T. J. Agnew 77, T. L. Johnson 74, Geo. McKay 71, A. Goodfellow 69, T. E. Baker 66, Jas. McKay 57 ; total 738.

**F. DIVISION, N.W.M.P.**—Const. A. R. Carmichael 73, Const. E. B. Creighton 67, Corp. W. Kerr 65, Insp. F. Norman 61, Supt. A. B. Perry 61, Sergt. A. E. G. Montgomery 59, Const. O. St. Denis 59, Stf.-Sergt. Wm. Parker 59, Const. R. A. Payne 57, Sergt. H. Bailey 55 ; total 616.

**VICTORIA RIFLES.**—*First Team*—Lieut. Desbarats 67, Pte. Miller 67, Capt. Busted 58, Corp. Mathews 55, Sergt. Binmore 52, Pte. McMartin 52, Lieut. Pope 50, Stf.-Sergt. Macadam 50, Pte. Kough 46, Pte. McAfee 31 ; total 528. *Second Team*—Pte. Mills 40, Lieut. Carter 40, Col.-Sergt. Gorman 36, Pte. Hardie 28, Corp. Tabb 26, Pte. Beckett 25, Major Starke 22, Lieut. Rodden 18, Sergt. Burton 13, Pte. Reynolds 8 ; total 256.

**SIXTY-FIFTH BATTALION.**—Pte. D. Thibaudeau 38, Sergt.-Major A. Gauthier 28, Pte. Beauchamp 20, Sergt. P. L'vasseur 14, Stf.-Sergt. P. E. Parent 11, Pte. Desaulniers 10, Pte. Nelson 8, Lieut. A. Roy 6, Pte. E. Turcotte 4, Pte. Tresler 0 ; total 139.

#### A Letter from India.

A letter recently received by the Editor from a Canadian officer now stationed in India with the corps of the Imperial army in which he is serving, gives an interesting account of an officer's daily life in the hot weather in the plains. The letter is dated Lucknow, 7th April, and thus proceeds :—

"At 5 a.m. he is called by his native bearer or body servant, and has chota haziri (little breakfast), which is brought by the kilmagar or waiter, and consists of tea and toast. He then dresses, or rather, is dressed by his dressing boy, and his syce having brought round his pony he gallops off, followed by the syce on foot, to parade, which is some distance off, and at 6 a.m. Parade over he proceeds to orderly room, if he has any work or duty there, and after that is practically free for the day. He gallops home to his bungalow, has his tub, changes his uniform for flannels, and then rides over to the mess for 'burra haziri' (large breakfast) at about 9 a.m. After breakfast he reads the paper, smokes several trichinopolis cigars, drinks a peg or so, and then returns to his darkened bungalow to get through the weary hours as best he may until 2 p.m. proclaims the tiffin hour. Tiffin over, a game of billiards follows, and at three o'clock if he has any calls to make he drives out, protected by a solax topi and white umbrella, to pay them. Having paid his calls he then, about 4.30 p.m., proceeds to the racquet court for exercise, and at about six, having got into mufti and put on a chota topi (small cap), he goes to the gardens to listen to the band, discuss the station gossip and several pegs with his male friends, or the station scandal and tea with his lady acquaintances. At 8 p.m. he returns to dress for mess, and having got into white clothes and a cummerbund he again meets his brother officers at dinner, where under gently swaying puntiahs the events, or rather want of events, of the day are discussed. Ponies, polo, racing, &c., are talked over, and then all

adjourn to the comparative cool of the verandah, where each stretches himself in a long easy chair and with a very long peg and a very long cigar strives in the Indian fashion to make himself as happy as the sultriness and general feeling of exhaustion will permit. At midnight he seeks repose, and happy the man who can sleep ; for what with flies, mosquitoes and other discomforts he often courts sleep in vain until these pests are rendered torpid by the cool of the approaching morn and the distracted seeker of nature's sweet restorer at last falls into a sound slumber only to be awakened from his dreams of home by the sight of the black countenance of his bearer, who has been trying hard to arouse his master so that he may be in time for parade.

"This dreary monotony of existence is varied by an occasional four or five days leave, which is spent in the pursuit of big game, buck, etc., etc., and the sportsman returns with marvellous tales and thrilling stories of his prowess, etc., with which to regale his brother officers and make each determine when his turn arrives to outdo them.

"I received the last numbers of the MILITIA GAZETTE all right, and read it with interest."

#### Correspondence.

(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.)

#### THE RULES OF THE LEAGUE.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—Your correspondent Mark IV calls attention to a matter that may prove of vital importance to the success or failure of the Military Rifle League. It is necessary that competing teams should have absolute confidence in the correctness of scores reported, and to secure this it is of importance that the work of the markers should be verified as well as that of the register keepers. The latter are surrounded by competitors and spectators in addition to the supervision of the range officer. The markers have in their power to build up a team total quite beyond the expectations of competitors themselves, with absolutely no check.

The weather conditions were so variable and generally bad that the result of the first team match was hardly a fair test, but with the conditions about the same all over the country, the result of the second match will astonish many an old shot, an average of 82 points being made by a 10-man team belonging to a battalion which has never been heard of as having a shooting team at Toronto or Ottawa.

For convenience of comparison I give the winning scores at Toronto and Ottawa for some years.

At Toronto—8-man teams :—

1889—45th Batt. 655, an average per man of.....	81 $\frac{7}{8}$
1888—Royal Grenadiers 641, an average per man of.....	80 $\frac{1}{8}$
1887—45th Batt. 578, an average per man of.....	72 $\frac{1}{2}$
1886—13th Batt. 613, an average per man of.....	76 $\frac{3}{4}$
1885—G. G. F. G. 591, an average per man of.....	73 $\frac{3}{8}$

At Ottawa—5-man teams :

1889—62nd Fusiliers 394, an average per man of.....	78 $\frac{1}{2}$
1888—Book unfortunately mislaid .....	0
1887—43rd Batt. 349, an average per man of.....	69 $\frac{1}{2}$
1886—82nd Batt. 389, an average per man of.....	77 $\frac{1}{2}$
1885—Halifax G. A. 401, an average per man of.....	80 $\frac{1}{2}$

It will be seen that the best 8-man team, shooting on the easiest range in Ontario, at Toronto, has not equalled this score, nor has it been equalled at Ottawa by even a 5-man team, except in one case when the Q. O. R. of Toronto won with 422 points, an average per man of 82 $\frac{2}{5}$ . That was a most exceptional year. Such strong shooting battalions as the Halifax Garrison Artillery, 3rd Victoria Rifles, 5th Royal Scots, Montreal, Governor General's Foot Guards, 43rd Battalion, Ottawa, 45th Bowmanville, Queen's Own Rifles, 10th Royals and 12th York, of Toronto, 13th Battalion, Hamilton, can only make an average of from 60 $\frac{5}{10}$  to 77 $\frac{5}{10}$  points per man.

Mark IV's inquiry as to B Battery is also well put. Why permit these variations from the established rule? If some teams are allowed to select their time to shoot, others may improve the plan and make their selections after hearing from "Old Probs." What more simple thing than to shoot half a day before a storm or postpone for another week on the chance of a better day? With the immense lead gained by a few fortunate teams in the first match staring them in the face, other teams will naturally look with disfavour or any fracture of the rules as well as any failure of a perfect system of checking the results of the work done by competitors. I have not written in a spirit of fault-finding, but with a strong desire for the successful issue of these team matches, and for the general good of those taking part in them. G.

Hamilton, 2nd June, 1890.

Four large torpedo boats will leave England the first week in June, accompanied by the troopship *Tyne*, for Halifax. Two of them are intended for Halifax, and the others will probably be sent to Barbadoes.



### Regimental and Other News.

Corporal J. W. Craig, of C Company, Infantry School Corps, died last week, and was buried with military honours in the military cemetery near the New Fort, Toronto.

The battle of Ridgeway is to be commemorated annually in Toronto for the future, and an association is to be formed to secure that object. For the first time since 1870, when the handsome monument now standing in Queen's Park was erected, the anniversary was celebrated this week. The monument was liberally decorated with flowers, and a large number of citizens gathered, presided over by Mayor Clarke, to hear patriotic addresses from the Mayor, Hon. John Beverly Robinson, Col. Otter, Capt. G. Mercer Adam and several others.

The officers of the 63rd Halifax Rifles entertained their late commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. Mackintosh, at a complimentary supper at the Halifax Hotel last week, Lieut.-Col. Walsh in the chair. In replying to the toast of the evening, Col. Mackintosh said that the other evening he met a friend who told him "he had just been reading in one of the papers his obituary notice as a militiaman." He now felt that if the record of services thus referred to were the obsequies the present gathering was his wake. He then spoke of the thirty pleasant years he had spent in the regiment, of the thoroughly warm support the officers had ever given him during his eleven years of command, and of how, whenever he spoke of retiring, he had been pressed to retain the regiment. The knowledge of that pleasant past and of this gathering would hold a permanent place in memory, and although now officially departed from the old corps he would still be found taking the very warmest interest in its advancement. At the close of the toast list Col. Walsh, on behalf of the officers, asked Col. Mackintosh's acceptance of a watch so that he might carry with him a slight reminder of the time spent in the battalion. He then presented Col. Mackintosh with a very handsome gold watch bearing the inscription: "Presented to Lieut.-Col. J. D. Mackintosh on retiring from command of the regiment by the officers of the 63rd Halifax Rifles, May 19, 1890."

The Montreal High School Cadets, trained by Capt. W. B. T. Macaulay, of the Sixth Fusiliers, gave a successful exhibition in the Victoria rink on the 13th May. It was under the patronage of the Governor-General and Lady Stanley. The boys looked very neat and soldier-like in their smart grey uniforms. The fife and drum band of the Sixth Fusiliers were in attendance and played a choice selection of music, but the music for the calisthenic exercises was furnished by the cadets' band. There was a very large gathering of the citizens, and the space set apart for the public was crowded to its utmost extent. Sir Donald Smith, Col. Houghton, D.A.G., Col. Mattice, Brigade Major, and a large number of the volunteer officers occupied seats on the platform. The work cut out for the boys might have daunted any of our volunteer battalions, but they showed themselves fully equal to it, and went through every movement with the utmost precision and steadiness. Following was the programme:—General salute, march past, manual exercise, firing exercise, battalion formations, bayonet exercise, stretcher drill, dumb-bell exercises, single stick, bar bell exercises, physical drill, sword exercise. At the close the boys were drawn up in front of the platform and were addressed by Col. Houghton and Sir Donald Smith, both of whom congratulated them on the exceedingly fine appearance they had made and the excellence of their drill. They also complimented Captain Macaulay, the instructor of the corps, on the brilliant success he had made and expressed themselves deeply interested in the movement. The national anthem being played, the cadets marched off, being greeted with three hearty cheers by the Royal Scots cadets as they marched out. "They would be hard to beat," said a gentleman, and this seemed to be the general opinion.

#### EIGHTH ROYAL RIFLES.

The 8th Royals of Quebec were inspected, as usual, on the Queen's Birthday. The regiment mustered at the Drill Hall at 2 p.m., and shortly afterwards marched out to the Plains of Abraham under command of Lieut.-Col. Prower, headed by the pioneers fully accoutred, and by the brass and bugle bands and signal corps. At 3 o'clock the inspecting officer, Lieut.-Col. Duchesnay, D.A.G., appeared on the ground, accompanied by a brilliant staff, and was received with a general salute. Col. Duchesnay rode through the ranks minutely inspecting the clothing and equipment of the men; after which the regiment marched past in the usual formations. Line having been formed, Major Jones and Capt. Montizambert, acting Adjutant, put the men through the manual and firing exercises and sword bayonet exercise respectively.

Col. Prower then directed some echelon movements and changes of front. Capt. Dunbar and Capt. Miller also worked the regiment about, and finally Col. Prower, again taking command, marched the regiment to the extreme western boundary of the plains, extended it for

attack and commenced a rapid advance upon the jail; the men keeping up a brisk fire until close to the jail road, when the supports having reinforced and a few final volleys being fired, swords were fixed and the charge sounded by the buglers. The regiment was then formed in column on the markers, marched back to the parade ground and advanced in review order. Col. Duchesnay expressed himself as very well pleased with the appearance and work of the regiment, and especially with the skirmishing. After the District Paymaster's roll had been called, showing a full muster, the men were entertained by their commanding officer, and with three rousing cheers for their Colonel and three more for Col. Miller (late commanding officer) were dismissed to their homes.

The 8th have been very short of officers this year, and this, coupled with the late date at which the drill was commenced, augured ill for their appearance and efficiency being up to the usual standard for the Queen's Birthday. Those officers who were left however, put their shoulders to the wheel, and the result has been gratifying both to themselves and the many friends of the old corps in Quebec. The work was fully up to the average and the muster exceptionally good; while the appearance of the regiment was the subject of many flattering comments.

#### Belleville.

The 15th always have endeavoured to celebrate the anniversary of Her Majesty's birthday in a manner befitting the occasion, and this year was no exception to the rule. The mayor of the city having issued a proclamation calling upon the citizens to observe Monday, the 26th, instead of Saturday, the 24th, as a holiday, the 15th were equal to the occasion, and pursuant to battalion orders we assembled at the drill shed at eleven o'clock. After the parade was formed, and inspected by the commanding officer, headed by our silver band we marched to the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, which lies about a mile west of the city, whither we had been kindly invited by Principal Mathieson to lunch and spend the day, or at least a part of it. We arrived there shortly after 12 o'clock and were marched to the rear of the building where there is an excellent parade ground, and were put through a number of manoeuvres by Lt.-Col. Lazier. At half past twelve we were formed in line at open order, and fired a *feu-de-joie* and gave three hearty cheers for the Queen while the band rendered the National Anthem. We were marched to the lawn in front of the Institution where arms were piled. We then marched into the main building down the wide hall and out into the dining room, and here a pleasant scene greeted us. The immense dining hall was filled with tables which were laden with everything tempting to the hearty appetites of hungry soldiers. The battalion and band occupied three tables at either end of the hall, while the tables in the centre were reserved for the officers of the 15th, the officers and staff of the institution, the ladies and the guests. After all were comfortably arranged, the Rev. Mr. Mitchell invoked a blessing and the repast was then partaken of, and at its conclusion Principal Mathieson rose and said it afforded him great pleasure to welcome the 15th to the Institution on this the 71st anniversary of our Queen's birthday. She had reigned for over half a century and he hoped she would be spared to reign many more. In a very happy manner he referred to his own military experience. He then proposed the toast of the Queen which was heartily responded to by three cheers and all joining in singing the National Anthem. The following toasts were then proposed and responded to: Lt.-Col. Lazier, officers and men of the 15th battalion; proposed by Principal Mathieson, responded to by Lt.-Col. Lazier, Major L. H. Henderson, Capt. J. E. Halliwell, Capt. Ponton and Capt. Robertson, all of whom spoke in a very pleasing manner, and tendered the thanks of the battalion to Mr. Mathieson for inviting us to partake of the hospitality of the institution, and also spoke of the pleasure it afforded them all to be present. Supt. Mathieson, officers and staff of the Institution; by Col. Lazier; responded to by Mr. Mathieson and also by Mr. H. G. Parker of London, Eng., who a few years ago was a teacher at the Institution. The Ladies; responded to by Mr. W. H. Bigger, the band playing "The girl I left behind me." The singing of the National Anthem brought that pleasant part of the programme to a close. The battalion remained upon the ground inspecting the buildings, viewing the grounds and watching the games and athletic sports of the mutes until five o'clock, when the parade was re-formed. Before leaving we were drawn up in line in front of the Institution and the Col. called for three cheers for Mr. Mathieson, officers and scholars of the Institution, which was responded to by about fifty male mutes. We arrived at the drill shed at half past five. All were unanimous in agreeing that it was one of the pleasantest outings the 15th had ever enjoyed.

#### NOTES.

The genial superintendant, Mr. Matthieson, was in the very best of spirits and was untiring in his efforts to make every one happy and our stay pleasant, as were also his able staff and scholars. They have all won a warm place in the hearts of the men of the 15th.

After returning to the city A Co. were marched out in front of the drill shed and were photographed by Pte. Young.

Sgt. T. S. Clark, of A Co., and family have the sympathy of the company in their sad bereavement of the death of their little boy Willie, 7 years old, who died Sunday night and was buried Tuesday afternoon.

Capt. E. A. E. Haliwell, of No. 4 troop, Regt. Cavalry, is in the city visiting friends and renewing friendships. Ed. was a corporal in A Co., Midland Batt., and was wounded at Batoche. He left the city a little over a year ago and went out to Oklahoma in company with Major Crozier, and since that time has resided there and in Texas. He came home to go into camp in June with his regiment, but will return shortly afterwards.

A pleasing event took place in the drill shed after parade on Wednesday evening 14th. The Col. formed the battalion into line, and calling out Segts. Gaugot and Gullet in a few appropriate and congratulatory remarks presented them with their certificates received from St. Johns Infantry School, Quebec, where they have just lately finished a three months course of instructions. As they returned to their places in line they were greeted with enthusiastic applause.

The next battalion parade is next Monday evening.

ARGYLE.

### Queries and Replies.

#### THE PRESENT ARMS.

Q. EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—Referring to notices of change in Rifle Exercises 1885 and Infantry Drill 1889, in your issue of 24th April last, I understand there are now only *two* motions at "Present Arms." Am I right? I have not a copy of the Rifle Exercises referred to, but taking the two alterations together, think we are justified in changing.

GRENADA.

A. The change referred to, promulgated by an Imperial Army Order, is a necessity for the new rifle, the magazine of which interferes with the second motion of the "present." The Canadian force being armed with the Snider, will not make the change. It is opportune to state here that while we publish these Imperial Orders for the information of those interested, the changes in the drill should not be adopted unless officially proclaimed in our Militia General Orders.—EDITOR.

### The Rifle.

#### THE INTER-MARITIME MATCH.

The second competition for places on Nova Scotia's inter-maritime team was shot on the 29th May, on Bedford range. The weather was the worst ever experienced by many of the older shots. The wind blew a gale from the north-east, and was accompanied by heavy squalls of rain and flurries of snow. The light was very changeable. At one time the wind blew with such force that the three second-class targets then in use were blown from their frames and disabled beyond repair. As will be noticed by the appended scores, there was a general turnover, some of the up scorers of the last Thursday dropping down, while others who were down then crept up. The firing was with Martinis at 200, 500 and 600 yards. The following were the scores:—

Bomb. Campbell, HGA	28	30	27	85	Maj. Garrison, H.G.A.	25	23	28	76
Lieut. Stevens, 66th...	26	29	28	83	Sergt. Elliot, 63rd....	25	26	24	75
Capt. Adams, H.G.A.	26	31	26	83	Capt. Corbin, 63rd....	26	29	20	75
Lt. Dimock, H.G.A...	28	30	24	82	Capt. Harris, H.G.A...	27	28	19	74
Lt. Flowers, H.G.A...	29	30	23	82	Gunner McEachern, H				
Capt. Bishop, 63rd....	29	25	27	81	G. A.....	26	22	25	73
Sergt. Harris, H.G.A.	22	29	29	80	Sergt. Mumford, 63rd.	23	29	21	73
Maj. Egan, 63rd.....	27	27	26	80	Sgt-Maj Lockhart 63rd	24	21	22	67
Lieut. Dixon, 63rd....	27	26	25	78	Sergt. Murray, H.G.A.	22	17	18	57

Ottawa.

Team of fifteen men each, from No. 2 Company of the Guards and No. 1 of the 43rd, fired on the Rideau range last Saturday, with Snider rifles, Queen's ranges, seven shots. The Guardsmen won a handsome victory, the totals being 1062 to 932.

At the regular spoon competition of the Guards Association, the winners of the spoons were: Pte. R. Tink, 1st class, with 83 points; Pte. Elmitt, 2nd class, 81, and Pte. Howe, 3rd class, 70.

The Rifle Club's sixth competition was fired on Saturday with Snider rifles at Queen's ranges. Mr. A. Pink led with the high total of 92 (32, 30, 30), winning the dessert spoon in the first class; Lieut. E. D. Sutherland took the tea spoon in the first class with 88, and Mr. R. Tink the dessert spoon second class with 83. The scores next in order were: T. Carroll 82, J. H. Ellis 81, Capt. S. M. Rogers 80, W. T. Mason 78, G. A. Mailleue 78, Lieut.-Col. W. P. Anderson 78, C. S. Scott 76, W. Short 76. G. A. Robinson took the dessert spoon in the third class with 67, and R. N. Slater the tea spoon in the second class with 61. The tie between Capt. Gray and Lieut. Sutherland for second place in the competition on the 17th May, was shot off and won by Lieut. Sutherland.

An Englishman, Sir Henry de Burgh Lawson, is the inventor of a new method of constructing ships which, he says, will render them practically unsinkable. The suggested improvement consists in constructing vessels with three keels—between which their bottoms are curved—in combination with special internal propellers. This system of keels and curves assures, it is affirmed, perfect stability and reduces rolling to a minimum; while the new plan of working the propellers will in a man-of-war secure their perfect safety, and result in greatly increased speed.

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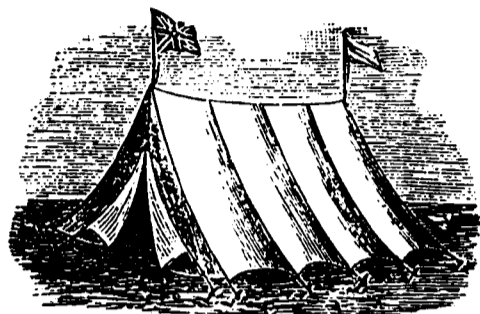
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Gold Medal for winning Volunteer Position Tournament from Scratch; Bronze Medal for any Position Tournament (3rd place), starting Scratch, and Championship of the Club for Highest Aggregate in the Volunteer Position and any Position combined, viz., 947 for Ten Shoots. I also won the Queen's Badge, at Wimbledon, this year. I attribute my success to the splendid barrel you supplied me with.—October 28th, 1889.

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For further information see OFFICIAL POSTAL GUIDE.

Post Office Department, Ottawa.  
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