

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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## NOTE AND COMMENT.

Since our last issue the whole British Empire has gone into mourning because of the untimely death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, the eldest son of the Prince of Wales, whom in the national course of events, he would have succeeded upon the throne. The young prince appears to have been very popular with all classes, and of late a great deal of public attention had been bestowed on him, because of his expected marriage with the Princess Mary of Teck, which was to have taken place in March. An official order for the guidance of the Canadian Militia was issued on Friday last by the Adjutant-General, as follows:—"A general mourning for H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale having been ordered throughout Her Majesty's colonies for a period of six weeks, a band of black crape,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide, will be worn by officers in all orders of dress, on the left arm during that period from this date. Bands will not be played, and flags at all flag stations will be flown at half-mast until sunset on Thursday, the 21st inst."

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Death has been particularly busy of late with prominent members of our Militia, and this week we have to add the name of Lt.-Col. A. A. Miller, a former commanding officer of the Queen's Own Rifles, and in whose charge the regiment went through the North-West service. Twice this month have the Queen's Own been called upon to mourn the death of an ex-commanding officer, but in the first instance Lt. Col. Gillmor had completed the allotted span of three score years and ten, whilst Lt.-Col. Miller was only in his fiftieth year.

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It is remarkable that of the three large contingents of the Battleford column of 1885, the three officers respectively in command have since died. The tragic end of Major Short, of B Battery, is still

fresh in the public mind; Lt.-Colonel Lawrence W. Herchmer, of the Mounted Police, died very suddenly last month, and Lt.-Col. Miller's death makes the third.

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As an event worthy of special encouragement, we desire to call attention to the third annual revolver match of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Revolver Association, which will take place on Tuesday, 2nd February, from 7 to 11 p.m., in the Drill Hall, Toronto. The Association would like to arrange telegraphic matches for that date with any other corps in a position to compete, the teams to consist of six members. The Secretary, Mr. N. B. Sarsion (Ontario Chambers, Toronto), will furnish any information desired.

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In this connection we may fittingly print the following extract from the annual report of the South London Rifle Club, which ought to be a source of much encouragement to those who are attempting to popularise revolver shooting here:—"The increased number of entries and the subscriptions received during the year have resulted in a profit, after payment of all expenses, of about £17, so that for the third year in succession the profit made on revolver shooting has enabled the committee to meet the deficit on rifle shooting, and so keep the club out of debt. The committee therefore submit that the decision arrived at in 1886 to extend the sphere of operations of the club to include revolver as well as rifle shooting was a wise one."

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The same club have some interesting recommendations to make respecting the new service revolver, as follows:—

"Inasmuch as the new service revolver shown in the Military Exhibition, in 1890, embraced two improvements, the buckhorn rear-sight and 'Metford' rifling, suggested by a member of the club, the committee respectfully claim that the South London Rifle Club has rendered good service to the State, but, on the other hand, the committee

venture to repeat what they said in their 1889 report, viz., 'that the powder charges of the new service revolver is too light to stop a man effectually at close quarters; that the barrel is too short for accurate shooting, and the whole weapon is too light for efficient service in the field, and they contend that it is a mistake to sacrifice the general all-round efficiency of a weapon capable of doing what Mr. Ira Paine and others have done with the revolver (at distances up to 200 yards) to the mere question of portability.'"

\* \* \*

The officer commanding the 14th Battalion, Princess of Wales Own Rifles, Lieut.-Col. H. R. Smith, has just been appointed Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Commons, a promotion from the post of Deputy-Sergeant, which he has held for many years. The new Deputy will be Lieut. D. W. Cameron, of the Queen's Own Rifles. The House of Commons evidently is not of the opinion that its employees should keep out of the militia, and may be expected to sympathise with any member who criticises the Order in Council which permits the heads of departments to interfere with volunteering on the part of their subordinates. It is noteworthy, too, that the Provincial Governments encourage the volunteering spirit in their employees. In Ontario this fact is especially marked. We have not the data from which to attempt anything like a full list, but amongst the names of Provincial officials which prominently suggest themselves are Lieut.-Col. Jones, of the 38th, Lieut.-Col. Clarke, of the 30th, Major Delamere, of the Queen's Own Rifles; and, the most recent appointment, Lieut.-Col. Hamilton, of the Queen's Own, who has just been made Inspector of Registry Offices.

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In the bye-election in Glengarry last week, Major R. R. McLennan, who had been unseated for a trifling irregularity on the part of an agent, was re-elected by a larger majority than received in his first contest—a happy evidence of growing popularity amongst his constituents. Major McLennan was, during his one ses-

sion in Parliament, generally respected by members on both sides of the House. As might be expected from the senior Major of a first-class corps such as the 59th, he took a lively interest in all matters affecting the Militia.

\* \* \*

A Montreal friend very kindly writes this week: "I take this opportunity to congratulate you on the valuable addition to your paper, in the shape of an Athletic Department, as I agree with you that the love of sport goes hand in hand with improvement in drill, discipline and general usefulness.

\* \* \*

Winnipeg reports are to the effect that the Royal School of Instruction there, in connection with the Canadian Mounted Rifle Corps, has shown a marked change for the better since passing under the control of the young blood from the East, Lieutenants Heward and Evans. It is greatly to their credit that they have been successful where so many fairly capable men have signally failed, and that they may long continue to enjoy the reward of their exertions will be the hope of their many friends in the East.

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Lieut.-Col. Tracy, late of London, Ont., appears to be making himself highly popular at Vancouver, B. C., whence he removed several months ago to take the post of City Engineer. The abnormally rapid growth of Vancouver makes the position one of more than average responsibility, and it is satisfactory for Col. Tracey's many friends amongst the militia to hear of his marked success.

\* \* \*

The Halifax *Critic* is using a good means to popularise rifle shooting, by urging the fair sex to participate in the sport. This is from a recent issue:—

"It should be the pleasure and duty of every man who owns guns or revolvers to make their workings known to the women of his household, and the women should be glad to have the opportunity of adding to their accomplishments the ability to load and discharge a gun without endangering the lives of all in the community. Naturally, when first undertaking the task, a woman will sight her target, then shut both eyes and fire, but this plan is not usually successful, and if the shooting practice is kept up will soon be superseded by a more rational method. Since fashion has set her seal on rifle shooting for ladies, the prospects are that our fair sisters will learn all they can about the art of being good shots. Not only has Halifax a ladies' rifle association (quiescent for the present until spring returns once more), but the brisk little town of Kentville, which always seeks to be more than abreast of the times, has a goodly company of shots which bears the name "Kentville Ladies' Rifle Association," and to

prove the proficiency of some of the members we have only to say that one score of 93 out of 105 has been made, and others are near that figure. Such associations should receive encouragement, and the emulators of Miss Winnifred Leale, who it will be remembered made a splendid score at Bisley last year, should make great efforts to do themselves credit."

The position adopted in firing is the one great obstacle to participation by the ladies, neither the kneeling nor the prone attitude being in accordance with a lady's idea of elegance or neatness. If some enterprising club would have a rest constructed so that a lady might fire standing and still have for her rifle a support as firm as her male friends enjoy lying down, no doubt quite a few ladies would bravely take to the sport.

\* \* \*

Wheelmen, whether or not at present Volunteers, will be interested in hearing of a "tandem-tricycle-carrier," upon which Lt.-Col. Savile, 25th Middlesex R.O., has recently made a report after inspection, declaring that it "bids fair to prove of great service in military operations." It is the invention of a practical manufacturer at Reading, and carries with ease, at a good speed, the hitherto unheard of burden of 6 cwt. Col. Savile says: "It can be adapted for numerous military purposes, chiefly as an accessory to the ammunition carts and mules at present employed in distributing cartridges during an action. Ten of these 'carriers,' constituting a reserve of 80,000 rounds of ammunition, would be of immense importance. They could also bring machine guns to the front (a couple each), carry spare arms, tents, ambulance appliances, provisions, etc., or convey disabled men to the rear. Considering the difficulty generally attending the provisioning of mules and horses, the advantage of these 'carriers' which 'keep' themselves is obvious."

\* \* \*

In England the subject of military cycling is kept very prominently before the attention of the authorities, who do not, however, make much progress in the matter of encouragement of the cyclists or of regulations to secure uniformity in such of these auxiliary corps as are already established. One of the letters on the subject, in the papers last to hand, calls for a manual which should be to the military cyclist what the Manual of Rifle Exercises is to the musketry instructor.

\* \* \*

The manufacture of Martini ammunition at the Quebec Cartridge Factory

has passed the experimental stage, and a product said to be equal to the best English make is now being turned out. No doubt the lesson in carefulness taught by the first Snider product at Quebec, has been remembered in this instance, and if so there is no reason to suppose that this home made Martini ammunition will be other than first class. There has never been a time more opportune than the present for making a change from English to Canadian manufacture, for the English ammunition lately served out appears to have been the worst handled for many years. The military papers in England have ever since the last Bisley meeting regularly contained articles contributed from all over the country, in which the results of scientific examination are given to show that the ammunition is very unevenly put up, and that the powder used is of very inferior quality.

\* \* \*

The present pattern of artillery helmet having been found unsuitable, especially for such duties as range-taking, laying guns etc., an alteration in the head-dress is in contemplation. Certain helmets of a foreign pattern have been provisionally approved at the War Office, and some of these have been sent out to batteries to undergo a period of trial wear, in order to test their fitness as a head dress for artillerymen under various conditions.

\* \* \*

As an offset to the frequently disastrous results of attempts to establish military publications on this continent, it is refreshing to find one that has been a pronounced success, in at least paying its way and making those for whom it caters fairly well acquainted with each other's doings, despite the great distances separating them. The paper to which we have reference thus speaks for itself:—

"The receipts for subscriptions to the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL during the year just ended were larger than during any year since the first issue of the paper in 1853, nearly twenty-eight years ago. This is not due to any special effort, for we were less diligent than usual in calling attention to our accounts. It was the result of a steady growth, that has added a yearly increase to our list for the past twelve years. The result of the attempts to rival the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL have been such as to thoroughly satisfy the service that what ever may be their conceptions of the ideal newspaper, they never have seen, and are never likely to see, a service paper that equals the JOURNAL. We present this as the verdict of the services, and not our own, though candor compels us to admit that it is not far wrong. No one who has not had experience can realize the difficulty of publishing a service paper in this country. The experience of others emphasizes this fact, and proves to every candid observer how much reason they have to be satisfied with the JOURNAL."

## FIRING FROM THE SADDLE.

General Sachotin, of the Russian service, expresses the greatest confidence in the efficacy of fire delivered from the saddle. Given two bodies of opposing cavalry 2000 paces apart, he holds that success will be with the one which remains quiescent, firing salves, until the other if it advance, is within 400 paces, when the firing body should draw swords and deliver a charge superior in shock and cohesion to that of the opposing force, thinned by the fire under which it had advanced, and with horses which had gone over more ground. Cavalry regiments in Russia have, by steady practice twice a week, acquired considerable accuracy and regularity in firing from the saddle, and the horses as a rule are sufficiently quiet to admit of their riders using their fire-arms to great advantage. Opponents of the principle of utilising fire in the cavalry, urge that the cultivation of shooting will cause the neglect of the sword. The result of Russian trials tends to prove the reverse, for the good shots are all good swordsmen.

The following are the details of experiments carried out at the camp at Vladicaucas, under Prince Ambochwar's superintendence:—

The object of attack was composed of a squadron and a sotnie (Cossack cavalry unit), two companies of infantry, and a battery. Opposing them at 2000 yards were placed two squadrons and a sotnie—the intermediate distances of 400 and 1600 paces were marked. Successive attacks were now carried out upon the infantry, the artillery, and the cavalry, the latter firing from the saddle. The attacking parties moved 400 paces at the trot, 1200 at the gallop, and the last 400 at the charge. The results were as follows: a closed squadron attacked two companies one in line, the other in four ranks, the two leading ranks kneeling; the duration of fire was 3½ minutes; the infantry began with salves when the attacking squadron broke into a gallop. The first company fired 7 salves, the second 8, only so many because the cavalry halted for a moment owing to a misunderstanding. The attack of the sotnie on the artillery carried out in a "swarm" lasted 3½ minutes. The four guns fired 30 rounds, observing all the prescribed rules of gunnery—they fired "pairwise," i. e. by sections—the second section is stated to have delivered 12 salvoes in this time!

The attack of a squadron upon another one at the halt, firing from the saddle, lasted 3 minutes, and the assailants received during this time 8 salvoes from the halted squadron and 11 from the sotnie. When the moving cavalry had advanced within 400 paces, the standing body ceased firing—really too soon—returned their rifles, and drew swords advancing to the charge. All the spectators concurred in the opinion that the charge of the body which had awaited the attack was superior

in speed and concentration (*Geschlossenheit*) to that of the attacking force. The cavalry fire is said to have been almost equal in order and regularity to that of infantry; the horses stood remarkably quiet.

A German critic notes that in Russia 10 per cent. of hits at 800 paces is considered good and observes drily that the Russian satisfaction at the results from the saddle held by them to be good, is only justified by applying a comparative standard with shooting on foot, which was bad. General Sachotin is confirmed in his opinion of the utility of firing from the saddle basing his confidence in improved results on the dogged persistency of the Russian soldier "which even astonished the Germans." What even can be done on foot, the same will, he says, be possible from the saddle. Experiments with this view are announced, and regulations for firing from the saddle with the application of the system to the various vicissitudes of an action are shortly to be issued. Many officers express very adverse opinions. General Gourko, in criticising the summer manoeuvres, writes:—"I repeat and reiterate that the strength of cavalry rests in the sword alone, and they should never resort to the carbine until there is no possibility for mounted action."

## THE SWORD.

Sir F. Pollock, Bart., recently delivered a very interesting and instructive lecture on the Sword at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, by permission of Maj Gen. W. Stirling, C. B., R. A., the Governor, who, with Maj Gen. Albert Williams, R. A., commanding the garrison and a large number of officers, with the whole of the cadet company, was present on the occasion in the school of arms attached to the gymnasium at the R. M. A. The lecturer traced—as the Irishman of story puts it—the growth of the sword from the dagger of the ancients. The sword naturally divides itself into two great classes, the Eastern curved and single-edged, and the Western straight and double-edged. The present cavalry sabre is a modification of the Eastern blade, and the swords used in the Peninsular War were very curved, as also are some German sabres of more recent date. Time admitted only of a cursory glance at the Italian school of fencing. The introduction of powerful firearms, which led to the abolition of armour, gave an impetus to swordsmanship as necessity arose for self-defence at close quarters, instead of the original reliance on the protection afforded by armour. The earliest rapiers were too heavy for rapid exchanges, and were therefore used in conjunction with the dagger. Capt. Hutton and Instructor Blackburn here appeared in a bout, illustrating the use of the rapier and dagger. French duelling and swordplay were next discussed, the French superiority in the

art of fence being duly acknowledged by the lecturer. Messrs Colmore, Dunn, and Norbury here illustrated the use of foils. The supremacy of the French in play of this description is doubtless due to the fact that duelling is still prevalent in France, the duelling-swords being somewhat similar to foils. Capt. Hutton and Mr. Norbury illustrated the use of French duelling swords. Referring to bayonets Sir F. Pollock, in commenting upon the return to a short bayonet for use in the British army, exhibited an Austrian service bayonet, shorter than the British one; also a Russian bayonet, about as long as our sword-bayonet. The military sword need not of necessity be a clumsy weapon, it is susceptible of scientific use. The lecturer here indicated some "positions" with this weapon, which would certainly make an sergeant-major's hair stand on end—they fulfilled the more useful mission of preventing an enemy removing any of it, and would certainly overstrain any and every existing muscle in a short-service soldier's frame. A revival in swordplay was progressing in England; and, as Englishmen have, as a general rule, to do more fighting than any other nationality, it is right that they should acquire some skill with a weapon of common use. Capt. Hutton and Mr. Dunn here illustrated the use of the cavalry sword in exhibiting a very interesting collection of weapons from the Rotunda, Woolwich, and where Sir F. Pollock described the use of certain characteristic weapons, such as the *kukri* of the Ghoorkas, an Arridi blade, and other curious knives and daggers, Instructor Blackburn and Mr. Dunn concluding the display with the French salute.

A colonel commanding a British regiment, anxious to meet the wishes of his men, lately placed in the regimental reading-room a book "for suggestions and requirements." When the book was brought to him a few days afterwards for his perusal the first entry rather startled him. It was short and to the point: "Want'd a new colonel." It is needless to say that the book was withdrawn, and that in future the regimental institutions of the gallant corps in question will be conducted on lines more in keeping with the rules of discipline and good order.

Mr. Walter Winans, the well known champion revolver shot of the N. R. A. Meetings and South London Rifle Club, has presented a statuette of a mounted "Cowboy," sculptured by himself, to the revolver shots of America, to be shot for. Great interest is taken in the competition by the members of the numerous pistol and revolver clubs. Some of the principal revolver making companies of the States have at the instance of *Forest and Stream* signified their intention to offer some of the best specimens of their productions as prizes supplementary to the main offer of Mr. Winans' trophy.

## ATHLETIC Sports and Pastimes

The remarks made in these columns about the depressed condition of curling interests in the Maritime Provinces at the present time, have induced "Bluenose" to address the *Montreal Gazette* in a letter which implies that there is anything but depression among the "brethren o' the besom" in the East, and in a pleasant manner he expresses a desire to have the accuracy of his view tested by a deputation of Western curlers visiting the Maritime Provinces to prove the skill and hospitality of the curlers by the sea.

I can only say my reason for stating the game was in a depressed condition owing to financial stringency, was because I was informed that the secretary of the Ontario Branch R. C. C. Club had received a letter to that effect from the secretary of the Maritime Province Branch in answer to a circular issued proposing the formation of a Dominion Curling Association, and asking for the co-operation of the Maritime Province Branch.

Such a statement emanating from an authoritative source, I naturally assumed ought to be correct, but if it is not, it will be very welcome news to all curlers in the West.

Bluenose extends a generous invitation to Western curlers to visit their brethren by the sea, and test the ability and hospitality of the rinks in the Eastern Provinces; and states that while the Lower Province clubs have on several occasions sent representatives to Quebec and Ontario they have never been favoured with a return visit.

Without disputing the fact of the trips of the Eastern curlers to the West, of which I cannot remember any except the rinks who came to Ottawa to play for the Governor General's prizes, I think I can give two good reasons for the Western players not being drawn to the East.

In the first place the most natural men to visit the Lower Provinces would be the Quebecers, but they, instead of being a bond of union between the Maritime players and those further West, are unfortunately the very reverse, owing to their use of irons instead of granites. I have already advocated the adoption of granites by the Canadian Branch curlers and will be very glad if I can secure co-operation from the East as well as the West to bring pressure to bear to induce them to fall into line with the rest of the world, instead of forming a barrier between the Eastern and Western men as they do now.

In the second place my friend "Bluenose" ought to bear in mind that whenever the Maritime Province players have visited Ontario and Quebec, they have had some attraction beyond a friendly game in view. I have yet to learn, however, of any inducement in the way of

bonspiel, trophy, or other excitement, being offered to Western players by those in the Maritime Provinces to bring them Eastward.

The Manitoba Branch holds an annual bonspiel in which, I believe, representatives from Ontario have always taken part, and I do not think our Eastern friends would fare any worse if they would make a similar attempt, although I must admit with iron players for their immediate neighbours on the West they are labouring under a disadvantage.

### ATHLETICS.

A movement is reported to be on foot in Halifax to organize a new athletic club and erect a building to cost \$50,000, which will include swimming and Turkish baths, bowling alleys, gymnasium, racket court and covered tennis court.

I trust the information is correct, and wish the scheme every success. No more striking evidence can be given of a healthy tone among the young men of a place than a general participation in athletic amusements.

Athletic associations well managed do as much to keep young fellows away from the greatest curse of American towns—the bar—as all the clergymen and churches on the continent.

The students of St. Boniface College, Manitoba, have decided to build a gymnasium in connection with the college, and recently gave a successful entertainment in aid of the undertaking, when a capital selection of literary and musical selections, together with an exhibition of club swinging by Messrs. McCaffrey and Walsh, was presented.

### HOCKEY.

The Canadian Mounted Rifles have a hockey club, and are apparently able to give a good account of themselves against other local clubs. They recently played a close and exciting match against the Winnipeg club.

The second hockey match of the season for the championship of Canada was played on Friday night last at the Rideau Rink, Ottawa, between the Ottawa A. A. Club (champions) and the Shamrocks of Montreal, who came to the Capital, according to the Montreal press, very confident of carrying back to the Metropolis the coveted trophy.

The visitors were inclined to play rather a rough game, in which they were unfortunately, as with one or two exceptions their opponents appeared to be decidedly heavier and stronger, and in no wise rattled by the treatment; indeed there are

few teams on the ice more capable of meeting a rough game when forced on them than the members of the O. A. A. Club.

The advantage was decidedly with the champions during the first half, the score standing three goals to one. Shortly after play opened in the second half the Ottawas scored another goal, and then their opponents took two in rapid succession, making the games four to three.

At this stage of the proceedings the excitement was intense, but it soon died out as further goals fell to the champions in rapid succession, and the match ended eight games to three in favour of the Ottawa A. A. Club.

The Montreal A. A. A. have challenged for the championship, and the game is to be played in the Rideau Rink on Thursday evening, 21st Jan.

A challenge has also been forwarded by the Quebec Hockey Club, which will entitle them to play the winners of the game to be played on 21st inst.

A match for the junior championship was played on the 16th between the Ottawa A. A. Club juniors and the Victoria juniors of Montreal, which resulted in a win for the O. A. A. Club by four games to one.

Mrs. Cotton, wife of Lieut.-Col. Cotton, R.C.A., on behalf of the management of the Kingston Skating Rink recently presented the Kingston Hockey Club with a handsome pair of silk flags.

At a meeting of officers of the Prince of Wales Regiment, held recently, it was decided to organize a hockey club, and the following officers were elected: Hon. President, Lt.-Col. T. P. Butler; President, Capt. Bartlett; Treasurer, Capt. Bradshaw; Secretary, Capt. W. L. Bond. A challenge was immediately issued to the Royal Scots and the match took place on Saturday, Jan. 9th, by permission of the directors, on the Victoria Rink. After a hard fought match the Prince of Wales team came out victorious with a score of 6 to 1. The Prince of Wales team consisted of the following players: Captains Bartlett, Bond and Lewis, and Lieuts. Meighen, Macrae, Howell and Armstrong.

### SNOWSHOEING.

Clubs generally are at last able to take their tramps with shoes on, and we may soon expect to hear of races being brought on.

Le Canadien Club of Montreal on Saturday last tramped to St. Hyacinthe, mustering over 40 strong for their long journey. The return was made on Monday.

CURLING.

The small number of rinks from the United States that attended the international bonspiel in Toronto must have been a source of disappointment to the officers of the Ontario Branch, who were prepared to receive three times the number that arrived.

The meeting, however, was voted an unqualified success in every respect except numbers, and the visitors returned home with expressions of pleasure at the hospitality shown them.

After the international was finished the Granite Club of Toronto played a match against the State of New York, in which they were only saved from defeat by their old stand-by, C. C. Dalton, whose rink, composed of G. de C. O'Grady, R. Hargraft and W. Lawrence, defeated their opponents from Buffalo by 22 shots, the score being 24 to 2, leaving the Granites 18 ahead on the grand total.

ONTARIO TANKARD.

The drawing for the primary competition in group No. 8, Ontario Tankard, resulted as follows:

Toronto vs. Stouffville.  
Prospect Park vs. Aurora.  
Moss Park a bye.  
Brampton defaulted.

ST. CATHARINES DEFEATS THOROLD.

In the first draw in the Ontario Tankard competition on Friday afternoon last, Thorold and St. Catharines played. The ice was in the very best of condition and the playing very exciting:

<i>St. Catharines.</i>	<i>Thorold.</i>
R. W. Hamlin,	M. B. Shaw,
E. C. Graves.	R. Campbell,
H. A. King,	A. Fraser,
J. B. McIntyre, skip. 16	D. P. Crombie, skip. 14
W. Thomson,	J. Lawson,
F. St. John,	D. J. C. Munro,
H. T. Johnston,	W. Winslow,
C. H. Connor, skip. 26	J. Fraser, skip. . . . . 12
Total . . . . . 42	Total . . . . . 26

Majority for St. Catharines, 16.

The Granite Club of Toronto have chosen C. C. Dalton and F. O. Anderson as the skips to represent them in the Ontario Tankard competition.

Mr. Dalton has represented the Granites on several occasions in this competition, and was with Mr. W. Bodenach one of the winning skips in 1886, when the final was played against Guelph in nearly an eighth of an inch of water.

Mr. Anderson has not played before in the Ontario Tankard competition, but has for years past skipped rinks of the Granite Club in numerous other matches.

The first of the series of inter-club matches between the Ottawa and Rideau Curling Clubs two rinks a side, came off on

Tuesday evening the 12th on the ice of the latter, and resulted in a win for the Ottawas by the following score:—

<i>Ottawa.</i>	<i>Rideau.</i>
W. Howe,	K. J. Henry,
J. D. Wallis,	H. H. Brennan,
W. Hutchison,	W. McInnes,
C. S. Scott, skip, 27	E. D. Sutherland, sk. 10
W. E. Bennett,	H. B. S. Lane,
C. Holbrook,	C. Magee,
Dr. G. Hutchison,	J. W. de C. O'Grady,
J. W. Russell, skip, 20	E. Waldo, skip, 18
47	28

The Fredericton Curling Club have challenged the St. Andrew's Club, of St. John, to play a match in Fredericton, on 21st inst., and have chosen E. H. Allan, T. G. Leagie, H. C. Rutter and W. K. Allen as skips to represent the club.

At the same time, J. S. Neil, Geo. W. Hoegg, A. F. Street and James H. Hawthorn were chosen as the skips to represent the club in a match to be played against St. Stephen, at a date to be named later.

The St. John players will not have much time to get into form, as up to the 9th inst. they were unable to make ice, and had not been able to play a game, with the exception of New Year's Day, when the Thistle Club were able to play their annual match, President vs. Vice-President.

The St. Andrew's Club have arranged to play the St. Stephen Club as soon as they have a suitable sheet to play on.

Campbellton, N. B., boasts of a fine new curling rink, said to be one of the best appointed in the Maritime Provinces. Its length is 165 feet, and width 45 feet, and it has spacious dressing and sitting rooms.

It was opened for skating on the 9th, children being admitted during the day and adults in the evening.

CUP FOR CALGARY.

Commissioner Chipman, of the H. B. Co., has just forwarded to Calgary a very handsome solid silver cup, beautifully chased, and lined with gold, for competition by the Calgary Curling club, and Mr. G. F. Galt, of Winnipeg, has also forwarded a handsome gold medal for similar competition.

THE WINNIPEG BONSPIEL.

The Manitoba Branch anticipate a large representation of outside Clubs at the Winnipeg bonspiel. Rinks are expected from St. Paul, Portage, Wis., Milwaukee, Chicago, and other Western cities.

Their old friend J. D. Flavelle has promised to try and bring them a rink from Lindsay but he will miss his old associate McMurtry, now residing in Montreal.

Efforts are also being made to induce rinks from Hamilton, Toronto, Ottawa, and Montreal to attend.

GRANITES DEFEAT PROSPECT PARK FOR THE TORONTO TROPHY.

The first match for the Toronto championship trophy was played on the 15th between the Granites and Prospect Park. Four rinks played at the Granite and a like number at the Prospect Park rink. The Granites secured a majority of 26 points on their own ice and were beaten on their opponents' ice by 12, thus winning by 14 shots. The score:—

AT GRANITE RINK.

<i>Granite.</i>	<i>Prospect Park</i>
A. R. Creelman's rk. 36	D. Ca lyle's rink . . . . 9
W. Lawrence's . . . . 23	W. Forbes's . . . . . 13
W. J. McMurtry's . . 17	Q. D. McCullough's 18
C. C. Dalton's . . . . 15	J. Lugsdin's . . . . . 25
Total . . . . . 91	Total . . . . . 65

Majority for Granite, 26

AT PROSPECT PARK.

<i>Granite.</i>	<i>Prospect Park.</i>
W. C. Matthew's rk. 20	R. Watson's rink . . . 23
J. Bruce's . . . . . 13	J. C. Scott's . . . . . 30
C. Dempsey's . . . . 28	Q. D. Day's . . . . . 18
R. W. Spence's . . . 18	J. G. Gibson's . . . . 20
Total . . . . . 79	Total . . . . . 91

Majority for Prospect Park, 12.

PETERBOROUGH DEFEATS LINDSAY.

The first curling match of the season in the Lindsay-Peterborough champion cup series was played on the 14th. Two rinks played in Peterborough and two in Lindsay. The result was a victory for Peterborough by 16 shots.

AT PETERBOROUGH

<i>Lindsay.</i>	<i>Peterborough.</i>
T. Sailer,	Geo. Edmison,
H. Ferguson,	J. Stanger,
J. Matheu,	S. Clegg,
W. McLennan, skip. 18	T. Rutherford skip. . 21
J. A. Bucknell	D. Belleghem,
W. H. Simpson,	Geo. Fitzgerald,
Wm. Needler,	J. B. Pentland
J. D. Flavelle, skip. 15	C. McGill, skip . . . 16

AT LINDSAY.

F. Crandell,	D. W. Dumble,
Geo. Litle,	J. McClelland,
F. Knowlson,	G. Brown,
J. A. McMillan, skip. 24	Sam Ray, skip . . . . 25
J. McAdams,	E. B. Edwards,
J. G. Edwards,	G. W. Hatton,
J. W. Wallace,	R. S. Davidson,
Jas. Keith, skip . . . 13	W. G. Ferguson, skip. 24
Total . . . . . 70	Total . . . . . 86

Majority for Peterborough, 16 shots.

ROWING.

The few miles of snow and ice now forming the Dominion of Canada, which our forefathers treated with such disdain, is even now hardly known to the residents.

How many of my readers will be prepared to hear of a regatta, north of line 45, on the 8th January?

On that date a double skull race was held in Summerside Harbour, five boats

entering: Cheap Jack, Sweepstake, Daisy, Spoopendyke and Whynot.

Daisy—Andrew Wedge and J. Grady, Jr.—came in first. An oar was broken by one of the crew of Cheap Jack shortly after the start, and they dropped out of the race.

A single skull race was also arranged, but one of the boats swamped while being prepared, and the event was declared off.

The officers of the course were: Judges, J. A. McNeill, J. D. Enman, Kenneth Ellis; Starter, W. Manson; Timer, S. M. Greaves.

The water was smooth, and the air warm and balmy as in May.

Boating matters are said to be at very low ebb in Hamilton. The Nautilus Rowing Club have not recovered from the injury done them by the action of the C. A. A. O., in their treatment of the Donohues et al., which is still believed by them to have been unfair, and the Leanders are still rattled by the dreadful beating given them by the Argonauts last spring.

#### FOOTBALL.

The association match, Seattle vs. Albions of Victoria, B. C., played on New Year's Day in Victoria, resulted in a win for the visitors after a close and exciting struggle, by five games to three.

The visitors were afterwards entertained at dinner by the Victorian team.

The match (Rugby), England vs. the Colonies, played at Beacon Hill, Victoria, B. C., on New Year's Day has resulted in an appeal to the English Rugby Union.

The play throughout the game was fine and fast, and seldom has better football been played in Victoria. In the first half the Englishmen scored one goal (disputed) and a try, and in the second half the Colonists scored two tries. The result is said to be in doubt, although why I cannot see, if the umpire allowed the goal won by the Englishmen.

#### BOWLING.

A bowling match was played on the evening of the 9th inst. between teams of the M. A. A. A. and the Victoria Rifles on the alleys of the latter, with the usual result, the home team winning by 122.

Apparently the only point of interest between teams, one of which is playing on its own alleys is, what will the majority be? the result of the game being a foregone conclusion.

The exception which would prove the application of the above general rule was very nearly occurring on the alleys of the

Ottawa A. A. C. on the evening of the 16th inst., when the O. A. A. Club met the Victorias of Montreal and only saved themselves from defeat by one pin, Major A. P. Sherwood of the O. A. A. Club having the delicate task of delivering the final ball which saved his club from defeat.

The Montreal A. A. A. defeated Le Canadien Club on the alleys of the M. A. A. A. on the 16th. The latter club used the finger hole balls which have received so much attention of late.

In spite, however, of the difference in bowls, the game ended in the usual orthodox fashion, the home club winning.

#### LACROSSE.

The Toronto Lacrosse Club propose to give a big minstrel show and assault arms in the Academy early next month. They are reported to be sparing neither time, pains nor money to make the entertainment a success and hope to have a bumper house.

The minstrelsy and operatic performance will be diversified by international tug-of-war contests, fencing bouts, fancy and grotesque drills, and other startling innovations.

#### SKATING.

A fancy dress carnival was held in the skating rink at Portage la Prairie on the 6th inst., at which prizes were given for the best lady and gentlemen skaters and the best costumes. The event was a marked success both in point of attendance and the costumes worn.

A children's fancy dress carnival was held recently in the Rideau Rink, Ottawa. A large Christmas tree was erected in the centre of the building, on which were suspended some three hundred gifts presented by the management of the rink to the children. The tree was brilliantly and beautifully illuminated with coloured electric lights generously furnished by the Standard Electric Co. free of charge, and during the evening Santa Claus attended and distributed the numerous presents among the little ones skating.

#### CANOEING.

At a recent meeting of the Toronto Canoe Club, red and black were adopted as the club colours, and in future all cruising and racing members will wear a red ring on the breast of a black jersey.

Arrangements for their annual "At Home" have been completed and the members trust not to dim the success achieved by their two previous efforts in that direction.

Sailing canoes have of late been displacing the interest hitherto taken in

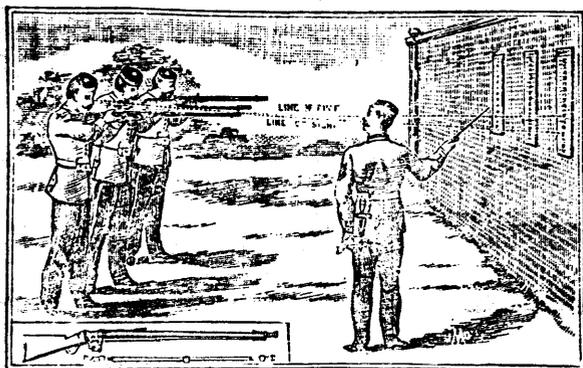
paddling. It is expected that the number of war canoes being contracted for and the great interest taken in the contest between these enormous machines will have a tendency to counter balance the decrease of interest in paddling.

Small canoe clubs are joining two or more to secure war canoes in common.

#### THE GERMAN FIELD PIECE.

Naturally, speculation has been rife as to the new gun with which the German Field Artillery is to be armed, but so far no actual details of the gun itself have been allowed to transpire, although plenty of particulars have been furnished as to its accessories. One thing, however, appears to be certain, and that is that the experiments with bronze have failed to give the satisfactory results which were at one time confidently predicted as likely to lead to the adoption of some form of alloy in which brass would carry the day over steel. From the exhaustive experiments carried out, it was found that bronze tubes showed signs of wear after firing 900 rounds, which made it questionable whether their endurance could be relied upon, whereas as many as 3,000 rounds were fired from cast steel tubes. The new guns, therefore, are to be of Krupp cast steel, and will probably retain the present calibre of 8.8 centimetres. The new limbers and carriages are to be entirely of iron, with an improved limber-hook. The limber boxes, instead of opening upwards, will open to the rear, so as to allow the ammunition to be handled more conveniently, and the gun to be more quickly served. Cartridge and projectile will also be in one piece, thereby ensuring greater rapidity of fire. The axle-tree seats will likewise be improved, and the footboards modified to seat the gunners more comfortably. The introduction of a metal cartridge, all in one piece, will be accompanied by a simplification of projectiles, one projectile being used for all general purposes, and only a couple of rounds of case being retained for each gun. This alone will greatly simplify loading during the heat of an action, besides greatly facilitating the renewal of ammunition to batteries in the field. These improvements, without taking into consideration further modifications which will probably be made in the gun itself, mark such a stride in advance, that it may safely be calculated that the new field guns will be able to fire three rounds to every one fired at present. In any case they go a long way to counterbalance the advantages lost to the artillery by the general introduction of the small-bore magazine rifle. At the present moment, 1,800 workmen are incessantly employed at the Spandau works, and as soon as the necessary credits have been passed, a still larger number will be taken on, so as to push forward the supply of new guns without a moment's delay.

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200 yards.....	5 5 5 5 4	-34	} 103
500 yards.....	5 5 5 5 5 4	-31	
600 yards.....	5 5 5 5 5 5	-35	

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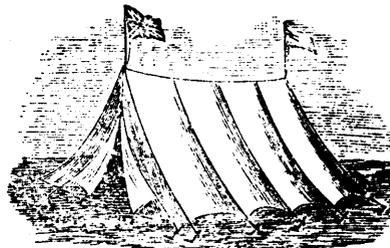
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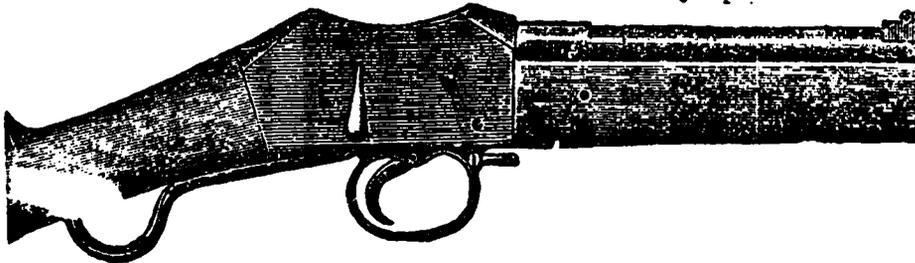
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