

The Canadian Militia Gazette

THE POPULAR ORGAN OF THE ACTIVE FORCE OF THE DOMINION.

(Adopted as their official paper, by the Dominion Artillery Association, the Ontario Artillery Association, the Canadian Military Rifle League, and the Royal Military College Club.)

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NOTE AND COMMENT.

THE Council of the National Rifle Association have come out of the contest for the vacancy in their number with flying colours. Out of 1436 votes polled (exclusive of 101 irregular ballots registered), 926 were for the Earl of Lathom and 510 for Quartermaster Gratwicke, and the former has accordingly been declared elected.

PROSPECTIVE members of the Bisley team will be particularly interested in the announcement that the Court of Common Council have again voted the sum of 150 guineas to the prize fund of the National Rifle Association, to be devoted to the Corporation of the City of London Prizes, to Indian and Colonial Volunteers. The first prizes is, as heretofore, to consist of a silver cup valued at 30 guineas.

WITH reference to the discrepancy in the returns of the General Efficiency Competition for Field Batteries, alluded to in the report of the Ontario Artillery Association meeting published last week, we are informed that the error, which is merely clerical, is in the detailed figures and not in the total, so that the winner is really A Battery 1st B.F. A., as already published. The possibility of the mistake being in the addition rather than in the details aroused greater interest from the fact that upon the result depended whether or not the Oliver Mowat Cup, offered by the Ontario Association, became the permanent property of A Battery, this being their second win.

As will be seen from the official notice published elsewhere in this issue, the Council of the Dominion Artillery Association have decided against the proposition to send a team to Shoeburyness this year. Perhaps the strongest reason influencing the decision was the fact that were a team to be sent the annual meeting at Orleans would have to be omitted, and the garrison artillery as a whole have become too much interested in this event to be deprived of it.

OUR paragraph of last week relative to the annual camps has been misquoted as an expression of opinion that they would not be held in the spring as usual, and in consequence we have received several inquiries as to the authority for the statement. As a reference will show, we merely pointed out the possibility of a postponement, on account of the necessary appropriations not being passed in time, and further declared that if it were considered imprudent to call the camps at the usual time, no doubt ways and means could be devised. As the corps called out for camp are recruited very largely from the farming population, the time has to be fixed so as best to suit the farmer's convenience, and between seeding and harvest he has more leisure than earlier or later in the season. The Militia Department has not yet definitely decided upon the arrangements, but action will be governed by a desire to secure the greatest good for the greatest number concerned.

THE programme and conditions of the League shoots for 1891 have now been determined, and may be found particularized in the supplement issued with this number. The official programme will be published immediately. There is no material difference from the probable conditions already published, but the points in abeyance have now been definitely decided. The strength of the teams is to be the same as before. One sighting shot at each range is to be allowed. Entries, which close on the 10th May, should be sent in as early as possible, so that the Secretary may be enabled to make proper preparations. The first entry has already been received; it is from the Battleford Rifle Association. Four other civilian associations, those of Sackville, N.B., Hemmingford, Q., Cornwall, Ont., and London, Ont., have signified their intention to enter. To sustain the interest during the month of June, during which there will be no regular League shoots, so that the camps may not interfere, it has been decided to have on the 13th an inter-city match

for teams of fifteen, with Martini rifles at 200, 500 and 600 yards, 7 shots. This match will be simply for glory, there being no prizes in connection with it, but League rules will govern and telegraphing may be done at League rates.

THE DOMINION RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

A special meeting of the Council of the Dominion Rifle Association was held at the Russell House, Ottawa, on Tuesday evening, the 7th inst. The chairman, Lt.-Col. J. A. Ouimet, presided, and there were also present: Lt.-Col. G. A. Kirkpatrick, President of the Association; Lt.-Col. Wm. White, Chairman of the Executive; Lt.-Col. C. S. Jones, 38th Dufferin Rifles; Lt.-Col. F. Massey, 6th Fusiliers; Lt.-Col. H. J. Miller, Montreal; Capt. A. H. Sims, Victoria Rifles; Lt.-Col. John Hood, Major W. M. Blaiklock, 5th Royal Scots; Lt.-Col. H. R. Smith, 14th Bn.; Lt.-Col. W. P. Anderson, Lieut. E. D. Sutherland, 43rd Bn.; Major Toller, Capt. H. H. Gray, G.G.F.G.; Lt.-Col. Thos. Ross, Lt.-Col. D. A. Macdonald, Lt.-Col. J. Pennington Macpherson, Major H. F. Perley, Major Walsh, Ottawa; Lt.-Col. John Macpherson, Treasurer; and Lt.-Col. Thos. Bacon, Secretary. The special business of the meeting being first taken up, the executive were authorized to make the arrangements necessary for sending a team to Bisley as usual. With respect to the complaints about steamer accommodation, the Secretary was directed to write to the officers of the Allan, Dominion and Beaver lines to ascertain upon what terms they will take the team, first cabin to be stipulated for, with a stateroom for every two members. The determination unanimously expressed was that the team should no longer be put to the discomfort heretofore experienced on account of the inferior accommodation provided for some of the members.

The Secretary was instructed to write the first twenty on the Bisley roster to notify him by the 25th inst. whether or not they would accept the places won, and to notify the next in order to fill vacancies caused by refusals. The appointment of the officers of the team was left in the hands of the Chairman of Council. It is understood that his choice is for Commandant Major B. A. Weston, of the 66th Princess Louise Fusiliers, Halifax; and for Adjutant Major W. M. Blaiklock, of the 5th Royal Scots, Montreal.

The Executive Committee were authorized to prepare a prize list not to exceed in value \$7,250, for the annual meeting at Ottawa, the date for the opening being fixed at the 31st August. At a subsequent meeting the executive appointed a programme committee consisting of Lt.-Col. Anderson, Lt.-Col. Hood, Capt. Sims, Major Mason and Major Blaiklock.

The recommendations of the competitors' meeting with respect to sighting shots and the extra series matches were discussed without any definite conclusion being arrived at, but it seems probable that one sighting shot at each range will be allowed, and the practice of throwing all the targets open for extra series shooting discontinued.

A long discussion took place about the team competitions, also without a definite conclusion. Proposals to allow unlimited team entries, and also that team contests should be decided by the highest scores made by any members of the competing organizations in place of by previously named members, failed to carry.

A proposition that in the Minister of Militia match the teams should consist of five in place of three members found much favour, and was commended to the consideration of the programme committee.

The annual business meeting of the Association will be held, in accordance with the constitution, on Wednesday, 20th May, in the Railway Committee room of the House of Commons.

DOMINION ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

Proceedings of an extra-ordinary meeting of Council held in the office of the Inspector of Artillery, Ottawa, on Wednesday, the 8th April, 1891, to consider resolutions proposed by Lieut.-Col. Irwin, providing for selection of a team to be sent to England to compete in the annual matches of the National Artillery Association, Shoeburyness.

Present: Col. Powell, Adjutant-General; Lieut. Col. Macpherson, Director of Stores; Lieut.-Col. Irwin, Inspector of Artillery; Major John Stewart, Commanding Ottawa Field Battery; Captain J. B. Donaldson.

Written votes and opinions received from fourteen members of Council unable to be present were read and considered.

It was proposed by Major Stewart, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Macpherson:

"That in view of the opinions as expressed by members of Council, and especially by those officers of Garrison Brigades whose corps are most interested in the proposed resolutions, it is not desirable that arrangements be made for sending a team to Shoeburyness this year." Carried unanimously.

J. B. DONALDSON, Captain,
Secretary.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

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

D. R. A. TEAMS.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE.—As a constant reader of THE GAZETTE I have been pleased to notice the freedom with which the members of the militia have used your paper for the purpose of discussing questions of interest to the force. And, since the subject of rifle-shooting occupies a prominent place in the minds of the members, as a young shot I venture to support the change in the present D. R. A. rules advocated by your correspondent in last issue, which, if adopted, would place the men who take part in the annual matches on a more equal footing.

The team prizes and badges in the Dominion of Canada Match should be awarded to those members of a battalion making the five highest aggregate scores instead of five previously named men at present. The injustice of a system of badge-giving which shuts out one-half the members of a battalion from competing for them is obvious to at least a young shot; it discriminates against him in favour of his more experienced comrade. It is simply one combination of old shots shooting against another, and in this combination the young shot has no part or interest. He is thus deprived of half the incentive before the match starts.

A young shot firing over a range for the first time has a great deal to learn and a little information or instruction would materially contribute to his success; but all the interest is centered round the team and little or no attention is paid to him, as a consequence his first appearance is only too often his last.

The most casual observer cannot have failed to notice the amount of grumbling that always attends an officer's choice of a team, especially when the men who have been left off happen to make better scores than some who have been put on the team; and when, as in most cases, the teamwinnings are divided amongst the men who actually compose the team, a man's financial success is left largely in the hands of another.

When both team and individual prizes are given to battalion teams they should not only be won by the highest team score, but by the highest individual scores as well.

We all know the amount of "glorious uncertainty" there is in connection with rifle shooting; a young shot is likely

o loom up with a good score once in a while, so that, if the change which has been proposed were adopted, the interest which is now confined to the team would be extended to all the members of the battalion; the old shots would see the necessity of assisting the young shot as much as possible, and he would not only have the benefit of their instruction, but the extra incentive of knowing that a good score would help his team and, perhaps, win a badge for himself.

Whatever reasons may be advanced for the previous naming of teams in the open matches, I do not think they will hold good in a purely military match like the Dominion of Canada. The reputation of a battalion should depend upon the best work done in the match by any of its members and not upon the anticipated scores of a few, and those members of the winning battalion who make the highest scores should wear the badges.

YOUNG SHOT.

REGIMENTAL.

A return match between the Dragoons and Field Battery was fired in the Ottawa Drill Hall on Tuesday, 7th inst., at the Battery Morris tube range. The conditions were 200 and 500 yards, 5 shots, 6 men per team. The Dragoons won with 223 points to 204.

TORONTO'S NEW RIFLE RANGE.

A number of Volunteer Officers called on the *World* on Saturday and wished to know who were the riflemen that had been out on Good Friday, and had succeeded in finding a range suitable for the city volunteers, should they be removed in their rifle practice from Garrison Common. The officers said that there must have been some real estate speculators at the back of this Good Friday visit, as they had never been consulted in the matter. "It is no use," said one of these officers, "to try and make us accept an inland range, no matter how free its borders may be of settlement. Population will eventually surround it and the danger will crop up again. What we want," said he, "is a lake-front range, away from the city and beyond any probability of settlement, easy of access and where bullets that miss the targets will drop into the water and be no source of danger to anyone. There is no reason why the city cannot find us such a range, and when they do find it we will be willing to accept it. But wait until you hear from the volunteers officially."

I quote from the *Toronto World* of March 30, a paragraph which will, no doubt, open the eyes of the shooting men of the Province. The history of the affair is this: On Good Friday representatives, and, mark me, shooting representatives, of the Queen's Own, Royal Grenadiers and 12th York Rangers drove out to inspect a range that was recommended to the city as one in all ways suitable to the requirements of the volunteers. The reports of that contingent are eminently satisfactory, and the following will throw a little light on the location. Doubtless the shooting men, even if they do not know the locality, will see for themselves that the ways and means of access to the range are almost unsurpassed. The range is situated six miles from Union Station and is accessible by both the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific Railways.

2. Some twelve passenger trains per day stop at Mount Dennis Station, which is distant 270 yards from the firing point.

3. The length of the flats is 1,400 yards by 450 yards in width and which will be drained into the Humber river, which is 700 yards distant to the west. The drainage fall to the river being 16 feet.

4. The Grand Trunk special rate is 6 cents return fare and the running time is 17 minutes from Union Station. The wires are already strung past the range for telephone communication.

5. It is proposed to have the one firing point and the targets in a kind of echelon position. The end of the range is backed by a high hill and on the other side is the Black Creek Swamp, thus making it impossible for a bullet to go beyond the range.

You will notice that among other things the wounded-in-dignity officers say, is that "It is no use to try to make them accept an inland range," &c., and advocating a lake

front range. Now, any one knows that you can go as far east as Frenchman's Bay, and as far west as Oakville, and even then will not get over the danger of stray bullets to yachts, &c., and again the time consumed in reaching one of these places, making such a hole in the afternoon, to say nothing of the expense, renders it inaccessible to 75 per cent. of the regular shooting men of the city regiments.

Of course "a number of Volunteer Officers" looks very well in print, but I venture to say that if a canvass of the shooting officers was to be made the number who would go out of the way to sneer and snub the officers and men, who would have gone to any other range just as quickly as they went to this one, would dwindle down to a few, who I don't believe would know a respectable range when they saw one, and who are so entirely wrapped up in themselves that they forget that the proportion of brains allotted to ordinary mortals is just as large, and to judge from this action I would say considerably larger than is divided among this chosen crowd of soreheads.

Another range is spoken of at Hogg's Hollow, but the suspicion is a fairly good one that it would be a mild way of subsidizing the North Toronto Electric Railway.

The time consumed in getting to it would be about an hour and fifteen minutes, as it would involve half an hour on the street railway and then a prospect of poor connection with the electric railway at the end of the street railway line. There is one thing certain, that the interests of the volunteers are perfectly safe in the hands of the military authorities, and they are not throwing the Garrison Ranges at the city and pleading for them to take them at any price. A waiting game can well be played and the volunteers are perfectly satisfied to do their amount of give and take in the common welfare of all, and in conclusion I would suggest that these wounded dignitaries instead of crying real estate speculators, &c., should put their ideas into some tangible shape and speak definitely of their range and not condemn an enthusiastic crowd of rifle shots in this well meant action, particularly when some of their brother officers were among the originators of the trip.

THE QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES.

The Smoking Concert of the Queen's Own Sergeants' Mess given in their rooms on Tuesday night last was one of the best ever given. A miniature stage, curtain, footlights, &c., added considerably to the success of the evening. The programme was as follows:—

Overture.....	Piano Solo.....	Mr. Scott.
Boxing.....	.....	Paul Pattello and M. Burns.
Comic Song.....	.....	Cool Burgess.
Concertina Solo.....	.....	Mr. Taylor.
Comic Song.....	.....	Mr. Riggs.
Sword Dance.....	.....	Prof. Early.
Ventriloquism.....	.....	Mr. Simpson.
Violin and Bone Duett.....	.....	Messrs. Bruce and Rudderford.
Banjo and Concertina Duett.....	.....	Messrs. Johnson and Nolan.
Clog Dance.....	.....	Mr. Bruce.
Guitar Solo.....	.....	Mr. Medley.
Reading (Chariot Race from Ben Hur).....	.....	Mr. Ebbels.
Negro Sketch, "Shakespearean Tragedies"....	.....	{ Mr. Walker. Staff-Sgt. Donnelly. Col.-Sgt. Cooper.

The ventriloquism of Mr. Simpson was exceedingly good all the hits being local and confined to members of the Regiment and the Mess, but the negro sketch was the best ever given in the rooms. When the curtain went up Mr. Walker was seen as manager of the troupe in a great state of trepidation owing to the failure of applicants in answer to his advertisements for stars. A knock was heard and Col.-Sgt. Cooper was ushered in, and in answer to the question gave his name as H. Blight Warrington; a trial of his vocal powers was eminently satisfactory but the question of terms of \$500 a week seemed to Manager Walker to preclude any possibility of an engagement, however, after a little haggling the sum of one dollar and a half a night was agreed on

All that was wanted now was a tragedian and that person speedily appeared in Staff-Sgt. Donnelly, who announced himself as Henry Irving; his trial piece was also satisfactory and his terms of \$500 a night speedily tumbled to \$1.75 per night, cash down, and now the fun commenced. The two stars recognized each other as long lost and almost forgotten acquaintances. The question as to what form their entertainment should take seemed to puzzle them, but finally Shakespeare seemed to be most favoured. "The Merchant of Venice" was first hit on, and all went well until the question of weighing the pound of flesh came up, and when it was found that they had no scales they had to be abandoned. "Romeo and Juliet" next seemed to be feasible and the rehearsal went well until the "balcony scene", when for want of a balcony that also had to be abandoned. Finally it was thought that "Othello and Desdemona" could be amply covered by the limited capacity of the property of the theatre and everything progressed lovely, unless you would say that Desdemona's couch collapsed on the first attempt of slumber; however, all was fixed, lights lowered, &c., and Othello appears with a night lamp in quest of the handkerchief, the said night lamp bearing a striking resemblance to a watering pot with a candle on the spout. Desdemona (Col.-Sgt. Cooper) now aroused seeks for an explanation of her liege lord's strange behaviour and Othello (Staff-Sgt. Donnelly) in his eagerness to compel her to pay for her faithfulness with her life makes a miscalculation, and Desdemona thinking that there was more reality than play in the proceedings forgot all about the play and the Manager coming in to seek the cause of such a frightful row, finds his two stars so engaged that it is necessary to call in the police and amid much red fire and clubbing of the unfortunate actors with sausage skin clubs in the hands of two of the stalwarts, the curtain descended. Among those present were Lt.-Col. Hamilton, Judge Doran, North Bay; J. E. Lount, registrar, Bracebridge; Capt. Manley, R.G.; Capts. Pellatt, Macdonald, McGee, Heakes, Lts. Lee, Crean, Knifton, Mercer and Wyatt. The committee having charge of the affair consisted of Staff-Sgt. Harp, Col.-Sgt. Cooper, Col.-Sgt. Bowden and Sgt. Cunningham. Sgt.-Major Kennedy acted as chairman.

B Company held their annual meeting on Thursday night in the Buglers' rooms, when the different committees were appointed for the ensuing year. Sgt. Langton, treasurer for the past two years, was reelected to the position. Capt. Pellatt placed the scheme of the D. A. G. for a flying column for the 22nd, 23rd and 24th May, before the company in all its details, and although the feeling of the men was against it at first, yet when it had been thoroughly discussed by all a vote was taken with the result that the men were unanimous in favour of it. While it was rather unwise to put the scheme until all details were submitted, still the chances are that the whole battalion as well as the Grenadiers will adopt and make this scheme the greatest success any of the volunteers have ever undertaken.

The final At Home of the Buglers was held on Friday evening in their rooms. About forty couple partook of the well known hospitality of this corps. The committee responsible for the affair was composed of Bugle Major Swift, Bugle-Corpls. Ross and Cotterell.

THE DRILL OF LAST SEASON.

The following is the Adjutant's report respecting the drill attendance of the Regiment for 1890:

Company.	Average Attendance.	Per cent. of Drills Performed.
A	50.4	89.2
B	39.8	80.6
C	36.8	84.2
D	50.4	90.8
E	44.8	77.8
F	40.7	75.8
G	40.2	75.6
H	34.7	69.5
I	33.1	76.5

On the basis of percentage and average as above, the officer commanding has decided the order of merit for attendance of the various companies as follows:—1st, D Co.; 2nd, A Co.; 3rd, E Co.; 4th, B Co.; 5th, F Co.; 6th, G Co.; 7th, C Co.; 8th, I Co.; 9th, H Co.

BREECH BLOCK.

THE ROYAL GRENADIERS.

At the regular parade of the 10th Royal Grenadiers this week the muster was 360, including both bands, ambulance and pioneer corps. The two new companies are busy recruiting and will not turn out with the battalion for some time yet. Their new armories are not completed but will be ready shortly. Headed by the bands, and some new pieces by Bandmasters Waldron and Hurst, the regiment marched along Jarvis, Queen, York, Front, Bay and Wellington streets to the Armory, followed by large numbers of citizens. Everyone remarked the fine appearance of the men and the splendid music of the bands, particularly that of the fifes and drums, who have made great progress during the winter practice under their instructor, Mr. Hurst.

The Queen's Birthday parade was discussed but nothing definite done. The proposal to go out for a three days' trip did not meet with much favor, while the men generally were anxious for a trip out of town.

Return showing average attendance of companies at drill during the year 1890 entered according to merit.

Co.	Sergts.	Rank and file.	Co.	Sergts.	Rank and file.
F	3.87	31.12	C	3.58	26.58
B	2.91	28.33	H	3.20	25.41
E	3.29	28.04	D	3.25	25.33
A	3.25	27.91	G	2.37	22.50

Largest number on church parade, F Company, 4 sergts. and 41 rank and file Oct. 12; largest number on any drill parade, E Company 4 sergts. and 40 rank and file July 1.

Name of N.C. officers and men who attended the whole of the parades in 1890: A. Co.—Cr.-Sergt. Cuseck, Sergt. Cox and Pte. McTavish. B—Cor. Farley. C—Lce.-Sergt. Sparling, Corp. Gilbert and Pte. Armstrong. D—Lce.-Corp. Curtis. E—Sergt. Brooks, Lce.-Corp. Robinson and Pte. Sine. F—Sergt. Nolan, Sergt. Jeffries and Pte. Ross. G—None. H—Corp. McDonald and Pte. Culligan. Ambulance Corps—Hosp.-Sergt. Taylor, Corp. Stevenson and Pte. Gray. Pioneers—Pio.-Sergt. Harding, Corp. McIntosh and Pte. Lea.

The officers and non-coms. are actively engaged in the sale of tickets for the annual entertainment, to be given near the end of the month. The following paragraphs from the *World* we give without vouching for the hints contained:

"There has been a good deal of quiet talk in militia circles within the past few days over the reported resignation of Major Mason, of the Grenadiers. The *World* believes that such is the fact, though little information could be learned as to the cause thereof, as every officer was sealed. However, one of the *World's* young men interviewed an old rifle through the window of one of the armories and learned that it (the old rifle) had heard a bayonet tell a crossbelt that there was an understanding reached some time ago that the colonelcy would change quicker than had been the practice heretofore, and that the majors would consequently attain the honour with certainty and celerity; that under this understanding Col. Dawson should now be drawing half pay, retaining rank, and have his jolly good health toasted with Shaw, Grassett, and other past commanders, whenever the boys had a dinner."

"A Queen's Own busby here chipped in, said the resignations were not coming in in that regiment with half the alacrity that was desirable. After a man has been captain for three years he should either be moved on or move on on his own motion and give the lieutenants a show. But all

the captains wanted to be majors, all the majors wanted to be colonels, and all the colonels wanted to be active officers forever."

HAMILTON.

It is a long time since there was so large a turn-out of the Thirteenth for drill in the shed as that of Friday last, 3rd inst. There were 341 of all ranks present, and the men looked smart, bright and well set up. Major Moore was in command and Capt. Moore acted as Adjutant. After some company drill the regiment was formed up and the ceremony of trooping the colours practised. Major McLaren took the position of field officer of the day, Major Stoneman that of Major and Capt. Moore Adjutant. There was a marked improvement over previous practices of this movement. Unfortunately there is not space enough in the shed to go through trooping properly, and two companies had to be wheeled at right angles to the line during the performance. Major Moore briefly addressed the regiment, expressing satisfaction with the good turn-out and the improvement in drill. He announced that on behalf of the regiment the invitation of the town of Berlin to spend the approaching Queen's Birthday there had been accepted, and he had no doubt from the offers made a very enjoyable trip would be had by the corps there. In all probability no more recruits would be taken on after next week, as the corps was over strength, and only the most desirable class of men will be enlisted, and only those who got their drill well up could be taken away on the Queen's Birthday, as the regiment then should put on its best appearance.

BELLEVILLE.

In the Sergeants' Mess Rooms, on the 3rd inst., Captain Ponton delivered a very lucid and interesting lecture upon the "Duties of advanced guards, outposts and piquets," showing how upon the alertness, efficiency and material support afforded by these to one another, the competency (in a military sense) of the main body is gauged and the success of the whole campaign depends.

From the great interest shown and the large number present, it is evident that the 15th will be this season in a more efficient state than ever before. Recruiting is going on steadily and all the companies are rapidly filling up. By the programme recommended by General Herbert, the new Commander-in-Chief of our Militia Forces, which we expect to see adopted this year for the first time, the citizen soldiers of Canada will be practically instructed in field manoeuvres and camp duties, so that in case of an emergency they will be in a condition to go "to the front" at once.

Next Friday evening Lieut. Clapp will read extracts from a diary kept by him during the late North-West Rebellion, giving the more important details from the time of leaving Belleville to the "taking of Batoche."

The N. C. O.'s class, which is held on Monday and Thursday evenings of each week, is progressing very favourably under the able superintendence and instruction of the Adjutant and Sergeant-Major. Many privates attend these classes and evince considerable interest, which greatly redounds to their credit.

"A" Company, as usual, are to the fore again this spring, having been the first to start the ball rolling. They drill one hour every Friday evening, and have a number of recruits who for intelligence, physique and zeal are not surpassed by any in the 15th. Their new Colour-Sergeant, Mr. MacCauley, is a pusher and understands his business thoroughly, he having been a two-year cadet at the R.M.C., Kingston. More anon.

"ARGYLE."

WE cheerfully recommend any preparation that stands as high as SLOCUM'S OXYGENIZED EMULSION of PURE COD LIVER OIL. It has crept into the confidence of the public solely through its merits. For wasting diseases of the throat or lungs all druggists will testify to its efficacy.

GUELPH RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Guelph Rifle Association was held in the City Hall on Saturday evening, 4th April, Mr. Geo. Sleeman presiding. The others present were: Messrs. R. W. Stewart, S. Young, W. Young, G. Atkinson, H. Thatcher, J. Goldie, James Ryan, J. Ogg and John Crowe. The Treasurer's report was presented, showing a balance on hand of cash and ammunition of \$81.41. This was considered very satisfactory and the report was received. The secretary reported that Mr. J. Goldie was the winner of the annual medal, with scores of 97, 87, 89; total, 273. Also that Mr. J. Ogg was the winner of the Macdonald cup, with scores of 32, 30, 35; total, 97.

The election of officers was then proceeded with and resulted as follows: President, Geo. Sleeman; Vice-President, Major J. Davidson; Secretary-Treasurer, J. Crowe; Committee of Management, Col. Macdonald, Capt. Schultz, Messrs. Ogg, Goldie, Ryan, McConkey, Atkinson and Armstrong. It was decided that the regular weekly practices should begin on Tuesday, April 28th, and that the regulations for firing and the annual prizes be the same as last year.

It was thought advisable that the ranges should be examined and that the erection of one or two new targets should be considered, therefore Messrs. Sleeman, Ogg and Thatcher were appointed a committee to look after this matter.

THE MILITIA DEPARTMENT REPORT.

(Continued from page 112.)

The commandant of the Royal School of Cavalry, at Quebec, Lt.-Col. J. F. Turnbull, complains that the strength of the troop is insufficient, and that the men being overworked desertions and disobedience of rules have become very frequent. Nineteen officers and fifty-one non-commissioned officers and men attended for instruction during the year. Col. Turnbull asks for magazine repeaters in place of the Snider carbines now used by the troop; also for an issue of revolvers and one machine gun. He recommends that instruction should be given in the use of the lance, owing to the re-introduction of the use of that weapon by the German and other nations.

REGIMENT CANADIAN ARTILLERY.

In reporting upon the Regiment of Canadian Artillery, Lt.-Col. Irwin, the officer commanding, advocates a pension for long service, in view of the advantage to be derived from retaining the services of thoroughly instructed non-commissioned officers. He reports the strength of the Batteries to be: A, 9 officers, 132 n. c. o. and gunners; B, 9 and 151, and C 7 and 49. All have their complement of officers, but A is 19, B 10, and C 60 men short of the authorized establishment.

In the course of his report on A Battery, Lt.-Col. Cotton makes the very gratifying remark that "The clothing continues to improve, and is of excellent quality," from which it would appear that the improvement heretofore noted in the work of the Canadian manufacturers is of a permanent nature.

Lt.-Col. Montizambert, reporting upon B Battery and School, offers the opinion that "The present organization of each school might be greatly improved upon by dividing the establishment into a Field and Garrison Battery. This could be done easily by the addition of two officers, thirty (30) more men, and say ten (10) horses to the present strength. The advantages would be inestimable, both as regards the increased efficiency of the regiment and the greater facilities for imparting thorough instruction. It would also give a slight flow of promotion, so much needed

in view of the long time many men have been serving without any advancement or prospect of it."

Difficulty is still experienced in maintaining the strength of C Battery, at Esquimalt, B.C., the rate of pay for labour in that province being so much greater than the government allowance to the Battery. Lt.-Col. Holmes deals with the question of pay in his report, and also joins in the advocacy of a pension system. He says:—

"Another matter requiring action is the subject of pensions, to both officers and men. Surely the men serving their country in the Permanent Corps are as deserving of this as their comrades in the Mounted Police, especially as their rates of pay are so much smaller. The successful working of these corps depends in a great measure on the non-commissioned officers, and good ones can only be made after considerable service, and unless these men can look forward to some means of subsistence (however small) after spending their best years in the service, they will not remain in it. The pay of the gunners should, in my opinion, be increased to at least as much as is paid to privates in the United States army."

"In conclusion, it seems to me that to-day is the most suitable to review the past three years. On the 10th of November, 1887 (just three years ago), C Battery, consisting of 94 non-commissioned officers and men, landed in Victoria.

"Let me briefly state what has become of them:—Completed 3 years and discharged, 40; discharged by purchase 13; discharged as unsuitable, 5; discharged invalided, 2; deaths, 2; deserted, 22; re-engaged, 10—total, 94.

"Let me again urge the following previous recommendations:—

"1st. Non-commissioned officers and men to receive their extra ten cents per diem, after the first year's service, as part of their daily pay, keeping back the first year only until expiration of service.

"2nd. Sending out a draft annually to fill vacancies. It is just as cheap to send 20 men each year as to send 60 every third. It must be remembered that guard duty and other work must be done whether the Battery be full or not, and 20 men short the first year and 40 the second, throws too much work on those remaining, rendering them justly dissatisfied, and with dissatisfied men a proper discipline cannot be maintained."

THE INFANTRY SCHOOLS AND CORPS.

Lt.-Col. John B. Taylor, Commandant of the Royal School of Mounted Infantry, Winnipeg, reports an attendance of 11 officers and 85 non-commissioned officers and men for instruction during the year—a considerable increase which he instances as evidence that the school is advancing in usefulness. Increasing difficulty is found in keeping the corps up to the authorized strength, owing to the high wages labour commands in that part of the country. No less than 19 members purchased their discharge during the year, paying an average of \$25 each, and of those whose terms expired only four re-enlisted. Col. Taylor repeats his plea of last year for a system of pensions, so that the trained men would have some inducement to remain with the corps. A recommendation of a similar nature is that increased pay should be allowed the Colour-Sergeants, on account of their exceptionally onerous duties, this being an endorsement of the recommendation made last year by the Commandant of A Company, I. S. C. Col. Taylor also expresses satisfaction with the quality of the clothing.

Lt.-Col. G. J. Maunsell has a very cheerful report to make on A Company, Infantry School Corps, and the Royal School of Infantry at Fredericton, N. B. Concerning recruiting, he says: "When a captain of a company pays attention to each individual man, on parade, at the musketry range, and in the barrack room, and when he is backed by zealous and efficient subalterns and non-commissioned officers—

when, moreover, the soldier is taught by experience that there is a brighter side of the picture than mere punishment, viz., rewards for the well conducted soldier—then, and then only, is the task rendered easy of keeping the ranks filled with men of the best class. Hence our experiencing no difficulty in recruiting to supply vacancies however caused." Col. Maunsell makes the following among other recommendations:—

"That non-commissioned officers and men married with leave, and their families, be placed on the same footing, as regards the issue of rations, as those in Her Majesty's Regular Army.

"As to the desirability of improving the position of the Colour Sergeant of each company, Infantry School Corps, he (the Colour Sergeant) being considered in our regulations for rank and pay as a company sergeant, whereas in the standing orders of the corps the important duties of a Colour Sergeant (the company, too, being large) are required of him.

"Referring to paragraph 1064, Regulations and Orders, 1887, I am of opinion it is desirable that the same privilege now allowed to Engineers be extended to Infantry, viz., that officers and non-commissioned officers should, from time to time, after original qualification at a School of Infantry, be allowed to take special 'Courses' at the same schools, in order to ensure their knowledge of drill and discipline being kept up. In view of biennial drill in country corps (Infantry), the knowledge acquired in one 'Short Course,' however carefully instructed therein, is too often lost sight of as time goes on, owing to the want of practical experience.

"A rule lately introduced into the New South Wales Permanent Force may, I think, be adopted with advantage in our force, where the number of married men is yearly increasing, viz: Before being permitted to marry, a man must have served three years in the ranks, been of good character, and have £10 in the savings bank.

"I am of opinion that the time has come for further improving the status of the Infantry School Corps, with the view to securing complete uniformity of system, fostering '*esprit de corps*,' and placing the schools on a better footing—all this without, of necessity, increase of expenditure, viz: (a) by following the footsteps of the 'Regiment of Canadian Artillery,' and forming the several companies of the Infantry School Corps into the 'Regiment of Canadian Infantry;' (b) each school without altering its company organization, with a battalion staff, as at present, to be considered the nucleus of a *Battalion* in the 'Regiment of Canadian Infantry.'"

Lieut.-Col. d'Orsonnens has nothing out of the ordinary to report concerning B Company, I. S. C., and the school at St. John's, Q., beyond that a suitable rifle range has now been obtained on ten years' lease, and good progress having been made in musketry training.

Lieut.-Col. Otter recommends the issue of two or three Morris tubes to C School for the purpose of better exemplifying the instruction in musketry.

Lt.-Col. Smith reports merely the attendance at D School and the number of certificates granted.

The Stores Department.

The following are extracts from the report of Lieut.-Col. John Macpherson, Director of Stores:—

The militia clothing of all descriptions supplied under the existing system is considered, both in material and workmanship, quite equal to that at one time obtained from England. The supply for the past year was carefully inspected by the clothing inspector, and reported by him to be equal in all respects to the sealed patterns and the requirements of the service. Store supplies and necessaries required for the year for issue to the permanent corps of cavalry, artillery and infantry, were obtained as usual from Canadian contractors.

The clothing issues for the year ending the 31st December, 1890, were: Cloth and serge tunics, 8,247; Cloth and

serge trousers, 10,381 pairs; Great coats, 4,448; and forage caps, 6,153.

The following quantities of practice ammunition were issued to the militia during the year, viz.: "Snider" ball 599,730 rounds, and blank 204,920 rounds, an increase of 207,485 rounds of ball and 69,140 rounds of blank, as compared with last year. The repayment issues were as follows, viz.: "Snider" ball, 557,919 rounds; "Martini-Henry," 142,360 rounds; "Colt's" revolver, 100 rounds; "Snider" blank, 220 rounds; "Spencer" rifle ball, 100 rounds—making a total of 715,699 rounds, to Rifle Associations and Militia Corps, for competitions and rifle practice during the year, being a decrease of 116,608 rounds as compared with last year. The decrease in repayment issues of ammunition may be accounted for by the additional annual allowance of 20 rounds per man authorized for issue to the militia for practice this year, and the allowance granted to militia corps taking part in the Rifle League competitions.

The "Snider" ammunition manufactured at the Quebec Cartridge Factory is giving satisfaction to the riflemen of the Dominion; favourable reports of its quality have been received from various quarters.

The manufacture of 9-pounder and 64 pounder R.M.L. common shell at the Quebec factory has been attended with marked success; the experiment, also, of making the tin cups for 40-pounder guns has been most successful, thus doing away with the necessity of importing the annual supply of these stores from England, as hitherto done.

The following supply of small-arm ammunition has been received from the cartridge factory during the year, and added to the reserve in magazine charge, viz.: "Snider" ball, 1,042,500 rounds; blank, 151,000 rounds.

The gunpowder required for artillery practice continues to be supplied by the Hamilton Powder Company, and gives satisfaction; the supply for the armaments at Quebec and Kingston, as well as the reserve, and for the annual practice, is fully maintained in Magazine charge.

During the year a number of articles of historical military interest have been received at the Military Museum, adding largely to the interesting collection already obtained. Further contributions of a like nature are solicited, and will be duly acknowledged as soon as received. As quite a large number of books on military subjects have been received at the Department during the past few years, it is strongly recommended that steps be taken to establish a Military Institute and Library at Ottawa. In such an institution winter courses of lectures on military subjects could be arranged for with benefit to the force.

The Government Cartridge Factory.

Major O. Prevost, the Superintendent, says in his report on this institution:—

There appears to have been no complaints on the quality of the ammunition (Snider) supplied to the several Rifle Associations, while the scores obtained with this year's ammunition and that of 1889 by the Rifle League at their several matches, were truly wonderful.

A large quantity of Martini-Henry ammunition has been used this year at practice and at competitions by the several Rifle Associations of the Dominion. This ammunition is still imported from England. It would tend to diminish the cost of manufacture here if the order was given to supply Martini-Henry cartridges ourselves. There is very little required in the matter of machinery to enable the factory to manufacture the Martini-Henry ammunition used by the several Rifle Associations and at private practice, all of which is paid for by the parties themselves. Most of the component parts of the cartridge can be made with our present plant, and a few additions at a trifling cost is all that is wanted to meet a demand actually existing in this country, and which is sufficiently important to make it worth while adding to the yearly output of this establish-

ment, with a view of reducing as much as possible the general expenses, which must of necessity fall heavily on a limited production. My suggestion, I beg to point out, bears on a point quite distinct from any question of re-arming of the militia with Martini-Henry which may or may not be contemplated. My proposal is merely to supply a demand which can be met by manufacturing here what, until now, has been imported. By this means our output will be increased in a most favourable manner.

The want of tin cups 4" 96 B.L.R. 40-pounder, used to secure proper obturation of the breech during practice with Armstrong guns, having been felt, it was requested that they should be provided from the factory, instead of importing them. Though the order was given at very short notice, as machinery had to be manufactured for this purpose, still the required quantity was provided in time for the annual practice of the Dominion Artillery Association.

A number of fore-sights of an improved pattern for 9-pounder R.M.L. guns have been manufactured in accordance with instructions received last spring; also, tangent sights for field guns have been improved, by adding to the old pattern scales a new head with slide leaf and peep-hole, as well as an adjustment with thumb screw for deflection scale. All this work has been going on satisfactorily so far, and will be completed at an early date, when the whole field artillery of the Dominion will have been provided with these improved sights. Considering the accurate nature of this work, comprising, in some cases, the graduating of the scales to read the elevation in yards, and also the limited number of operatives available, there has been no time lost.

The manufacture of 9-pounder R.M.L. studded shells has been carried on steadily during the year; also, the annual supply of 64-pounder common shells has been provided from the factory. Only a few of these 64-pounder shells were used at the last artillery competition; a large quantity of 9-pounder shells of our manufacture were used for practice this year, and appear to have given satisfactory results.

Experimental practice at the Island of Orleans was carried out under my supervision on the 24th July last, with 9 and 64-pounder shells manufactured with cast-iron from Three Rivers, Que. This iron has always been reputed as pure, homogeneous and of high tenacity. The result of the practice indicated that this metal was quite suitable for the manufacture of artillery projectiles, and could replace special iron imported from England for this purpose. It may appear desirable to make further tests, with a view of eventually adopting it exclusively in the shell foundry.

Shrapnel, 9 and 64 pounder have not as yet been made here in any quantity. The difficulty which seems to exist of obtaining them from the Imperial manufacturing establishments, a difficulty which it may be anticipated will increase (in consequence of changes in the Imperial armaments), points to the advisability of manufacturing the projectiles in this country. Moreover, if this order for both 9 and 64-pounder Shrapnel was given here, apart from securing a prompt supply, it would tend to lessen, as in the case of cartridges, the general expenses of the foundry, allowing larger casts to be made, comparatively less fuel expended and other economical conditions to be fulfilled.

Early in the year two patterns of small-bore magazine rifles were forwarded, with instructions to carry out experiments therewith. These rifles, of .315" and .316" bore, respectively, had both a bolt action and a slot in rear of the breech to contain the additional rounds. The ammunition provided consisted of a solid-drawn brass cartridge case of the ordinary form, filled with a charge of black, small-grain powder of about 62 grains. The bullet of rifle No. 1 was of steel, with a leaden core, and weighed 242.4 grains.

Rifle No. 2 had cartridge of the same description, about, as No. 1, except the bullets, which were of steel and lead

core in a number of rounds received, and of nickel and lead core for the balance, being otherwise similar in every respect. It was unfortunately found impossible to carry out velocity tests with these rifles, as it would have required too many alterations to the rifle rests to do so. I confined myself to accuracy tests at 500 yards and firing a number of rounds from the shoulder, securing all required measurements which might hereafter form matter for reference.

These tests brought forth, as it was to be anticipated, the great advantage small bores with high velocities have in the case of drift caused by wind. Whilst the Snider rifle fired simultaneously with the .315" bore drifted 7½ feet from point aimed at, the bullet of the small-bore deviated 30 inches, viz., two-thirds less. For accuracy from the shoulder, Sergeant Goudie, a good marksman employed at the factory, firing with the magazine rifle No. 1, though quite inexperienced in the use of this rifle, put his five consecutive shots in a circle of 24 inches at 500 yards range in 28 seconds. With No. 2 rifle the practice from the shoulder at 500 yards was also remarkably good. The nickel bullet had the advantage on the steel bullet as regards accuracy. The recoil with both rifles was very slight. Some bullets shot through snow were recovered, and their coverings indicated, in every case, a very regular action of the grooving. The bullets were very slightly set up, but otherwise not in the least deformed.

It is alleged that an humble subaltern in the Salvation Army wrote "In Darkest England." But the army wouldn't be an army if the general didn't get credit for the exploits of the subordinates.—*Chicago Mail.*

The Justin dynamite shell has been successfully thrown from a powder gun at Rome, N.Y. This new shell will enable every war ship to become a dynamite cruiser, and our Vesuvius will have no monopoly in the belching of sudden destruction.—*Milwaukee Wisconsin.*

The new dynamite gun throws shells fifteen miles. Next thing we shall have to send a man up in a balloon to look over the convexity of the earth and signal the gunners where to aim at an enemy who is not in sight.—*New York Sun.*

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TENDERS.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Indian Supplies," will be received at this office up to noon of SATURDAY, 9th May, 1891, for the delivery of Indian Supplies, during the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1892, consisting of Flour, Beef, Bacon, Groceries, Ammunition, Twine, Agricultural Implements, Tools, &c., duty paid, at various points in Manitoba and the North-West Territories.

Forms of tender, containing full particulars relative to the Supplies required, dates of delivery, &c., may be had by applying to the undersigned, or to the Indian Commissioner at Regina, or to the Indian Office, Winnipeg.

Parties may tender for each description of goods (or for any portion of each description of goods) separately or for all the goods called for in the Schedules, and the Department reserves to itself the right to reject the whole or any part of a tender.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted Cheque in favour of the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs, on a Canadian Bank, for at least five per cent. of the amount of the tender, which will be forfeited if the party tendering declines to enter into a contract based on such tender when called upon to do so, or if he fails to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted, the cheque will be returned, and if a contract be entered into for a part only of the Supplies tendered for, an accepted cheque for five per cent. of the amount of the contract may be substituted for that which accompanied the tender; the contract security cheque will be retained by the Department until the end of the fiscal year.

Each tender must, in addition to the signature of the tenderer, be signed by two sureties acceptable to the Department for the proper performance of the contract based on his tender.

This advertisement is not to be inserted by any newspaper without the authority of the Queen's Printer, and no claim for payment by any newspaper not having had such authority will be admitted.

L. VANKOUGHNET,
Deputy of the Superintendent-General
of Indian Affairs.

Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa, March, 1891.



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