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Topics of the Week.

A friend writing from Montreal anent our report of the review held there on the Queen's Birthday takes exception to the strictures upon the appearance of the Prince of Wales Rifles. "I think it is unfair," he says, "to say that there was any appearance of slovenliness in either the marching or appearance of the men, unless you can call the fact of their being the only rifle corps on the ground in the rifle green helmet a reason for applying that epithet to them." No doubt our correspondent here accounts for a good part of the apparent shortcomings of the Prince of Wales Rifles at the review. That corps has not the advantages or opportunities for drill enjoyed by the Queen's Own or the Victoria Rifles, and these having superior equipment they could not fail to better please the popular eye. But the Prince of Wales Rifles are also about to discard the dark headwear, providing themselves with the white helmets now generally worn, so that they will be able to make a more showy appearance when next before the public. This will be at their inspection on the 29th. Dominion Day they will spend in Kingston, and the officers are reported to be working hard to have the corps sustain in that essentially military city the good reputation for drill and discipline it has long borne. It will be remembered that Lt.-Col. T. P. Butler took over the command in April last, and the transfer caused the annual drill to be commenced late in the season. If excuses are needed for anything in the Queen's Birthday parade of the regiment, there are plenty available, but those who know Col. Butler and his officers will be confident that ere inspection day the 1st P. W. R. will be in a position to challenge comparison with any corps.

A London correspondent thus writes of things musical :—There is much talk now of thoroughly reorganizing "military music" in the English army. It is said that there is no such thing as an eminent army composer or any military music deserving the title of famous. At present the officers of regiments mainly keep up their bands at their own expense. All that the Government does is to make an annual allowance of £80 a year to each band, and to supply trumpets to the cavalry, and bugles, drums and fifes to the infantry. It furnishes these particular instruments, because it is those who play upon them who accompany the regiments in active service, and actually figure with them in the field. The remainder of the band (it not may be generally known) act as stretcher bearers and are otherwise employed under the medical staff. The critics who do not think highly of our military music must admit that there

is plenty of it and remember that the use of certain old airs by certain regiments has history and tradition on its side. The band of the 12th Lancers plays five special melodies every night between "watch setting" and "lights out," and has done so as far back as the longest memory goeth. "The girl I left behind me," became the farewell march of the army after the noted Brighton camp. So now the old regiments and their officers think that although there is no purely distinctive military music in this country it is surely well that favourite airs should endear themselves spontaneously to the regiments which adopt them, and as these have always proved thrilling and inspiring, finer musical efforts can be dispensed with.

Some time ago we saw reproduced in a number of Canadian papers severe commentaries on the management of our Militia Department, based upon letters written to the English service papers and dated from Canada. We have good reason for believing that certain of these letters, so dated, were written in London, England. It is surprising that the *Broad Arrow*, which published and commented on one of these, had such unbounded faith in the honesty of the statements contained in a letter dishonestly dated, and with even a dishonest *nom de plume*, for if information recently received be correct, the author of the infamous letter signed "Canadian," and attacking our Minister of Militia because of his French-Canadian origin, was no Canadian at all, but a British officer who had been disappointed in certain expectations in Canada.

The Pacific Coast Defences.

It has time and again been stated that negotiations of a confidential nature are in progress between the Dominion and Imperial Govern ments respecting the defence works and garrison of British Columbia, but no particulars were forthcoming until in the House of Lords on the" 16th ultimo Lord Sudley asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies, "Whether the Dominion Government had assented to the proposed arrangement for the defence of Esquimalt, whether the contemplated works had been commenced, and the armament sent out; whether the government would state the date when the fortifications at Esquimalt would be completed and the guns placed in position." In reply Lcrd Elphinstone made a statement of which the following is a condensed summary: In the agreement with the Canadian Government it was stipulated that while the Imperial Government were prepared to find armament, ammunition and submarine stores, the Dominion Government on their part were to provide the permanent garrison and training instructors capable of instructing the artillery and submarine miners who would form part of the local force. On further consideration, it appeared that the Dominion Government would probably find very great difficulty and certainly very great expense, were they to be called upon to provide the artillery men, submarine miners and officers capable of instructing the local force, and it had therefore been decided that a force of seventyfive Royal Marine Artillery were to be offered to the Dominion Government, including three officers. Fifty of these men would act as artillery

men, and fifteen as submarine miners. The charge for maintaining that force— $\pounds 7,000$ a year—would be borne by the Dominion Government. The whole force would be under the command of a field officer. The officers would be capable of training the men of the local force in artillery and submarine drill. A despatch to that effect was sent out on May 2nd last. The Admiralty had already selected the officers and men for that purpose, and they could, if required, be sent away at two or three days' notice with the exception of the submarine miners. The reason of that exception was that the military and naval submarine drill were different, and it was thought desirable to have the men trained in the military drill, as otherwise there would be two different systems and sets of stores in the colony, which would be sure to lead to confusion. Application as to the training of those men had been made to the War Office.

With regard to the second part of the question, which asked whether the works had been commenced, and when they would be completed, Lord Elphinstone said that was a question rather for the War Office than the Admirality, but he apprehended that they were both very much in the same position, which was that neither could take any step forward until the Canadian Government had replied to the despatch of May and. He had been authorized to say that part of the important armament that was to have gone to Esquimalt had been sent elsewhere. The quickfiring guns were in the manufacturer's hands, and the machine guns were being re-bored. There was no doubt that the armament would be ready as soon as the fortifications were fit to receive them. The government did not feel justified in keeping guns in England awaiting the completion of fortifications which were only in contemplation, while there were other important fortifications and ships ready to receive guns.

A Champion Shot.

In last issue, and continued in this, there appears an exceedingly interesting paper on rifle shooting, from the pen of Lieut. J. M. T. Partello, champion shot of the U. S. Army, or "champion army rifle shot of the world," as the U. S. newspapers modestly announce him. The story of his career is thus told in *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*:

"The distinction of being the champion army rifle shot of the world belongs to Lieut. J. M. T. Partello, of the Fifth Infantry, United States Army. Lieut. Partello is an Ohio man, having been born at the Capital of the State, March 4, 1854, but his parents removed to Washington two years later. He attended school there, and at eighteen was appointed a Clerk in the War Department. When the American Rifle Team went abroad in 1874 and gained their victory over the Irish team at Dollymount, he conceived the idea that he could shoot a rifle and broached the subject to his father, but he discouraged him in every way, and urged his son to devote his attention to the study of law. The young man complied and graduated at the Columbian Law University. But the idea of becoming a rifleman could not be extinguished, and in 1878, his father having died, young Partello resolved to at least make the trial. He first bought a small rifle, and, after a little practice, found that he was quite right in thinking that he had a "knack" for shooting. Col. Burnside, President of the Columbia Rifle Association. of Washington, advised him . to become a member of that association, and enter the lists as a candi date for membership of the team that was to represent Washington at . Creedmoor in the fall of 1878. He did so, came out number one in thirteen straight competitions for membership, and went to Creedmoor and won a number of matches there. In October, 1878, he made at Washington the best record for long-range shooting in the world, scoring 224 points out of a possible 225 at 800, 900 and 1,000 yards, the weapon used being a Remington long-range rifle. About this time the officers of the army began to awaken to the importance of the soldiers learning to use their arms, and President Hayes commissioned Mr. Partello an officer of the army, in recognition of his excellent record as a marksman. His duties since then have always been to instruct the line in the use of theia arms. Last August Lieut. Partello entered the contest for the Department of Dakota prize, and won it, General Terry presenting the gold medal and announcing that the young lieutenant stood at the head of the 4,500 officers and men in that department. From this contest he was ordered to Fort Leavenworth in September following, to compete for the great Division of the Missouri medal, which he won after a hard contest over the pick of the 1,800 troops in that military division. This was the 17th prize which he had received for rifle marksmanship.

"Lieut. Partello ascribes his success to the fact that on entering the service he dropped the sporting rifles and devoted his attention to the military service rifle, until now he understands it better than anybody else. His whole duty in the army is as instructor of musketry, and he has charge of the rifle ranges, etc., at Fort Keogh, Montana, the largest post in the army. Lieut. Partello has won his own way, and his success is in every way creditable to him."

Dominion Artillery Association.

The following circular has just been issued by Capt. J. B. Donaldson, Secretary of this association :--

I. ANNUAL GUN PRACTICE.—The following additions will be made to the rules for practice :—

"On land ranges, when the circumstances of the case will permit, or when two or more batteries are practising together, telephones may be used for signalling purposes.

When the signalling is by flags, as already described, and if considered necessary by the umpire, a white flag may be hoisted at the battery when sharpnel shell are to be fired; if any doubt should arise as to the signalled value of a blind shapnel, a white flag is to be hoisted at the battery, and a repetition of the previous signal called for.

Batteries unable to send detachments to the general competitive meetings at Kingston and Quebec, and which perform their annual gun practice elsewhere, will be unable to count their scores for aggregate or individual prizes, or for the efficiency competition, unless such scores are certified to by an umpire and range officer, unconnected with the battery, and appointed by the inspector or assistant-inspector of artillery.

2. GENERAL EFFICIENCY COMPETITION.—In order to more nearly equalize the credits awarded for theoretical and practical subjects in garrison batteries, the values of answers to questions will be reduced from 30 and 48 to 24 and 36 respectively.

A reduction of one point from the general total gained by any battery, will be made for each N. C. officer or gunner below the establishment authorized for drill, whose abscence at inspection is not satisfactorily accounted for under exceptional conditions.

The percentage of the highest possible score made by each field battery, will in future be counted for general efficiency, instead of onefifth the scare made.

The Queen's Birthday Celebrations.

In celebration of Her Majesty's birthday, the capital of the Pacific province had a grand two day's celebration. On the second day, Saturday 25th, there was a military pageant not second save in numbers participating to any of those in Eastern Canada chronicled last week. The following account is from the Victoria *Daily Colonist*:

At fifteen minutes to twelve the steam launches belonging to the Swiftsure, Icarus, and Amphion left Esquimalt with fifteen boats and scows in tow. These contained the whole of the attacking party, 600 strong, who were brought round to the wood on the west side of Beacon Hill, and landed there. At one o'clock Capt. Hammet, who was acting as Brigadier, summoned his officers together, immediately on landing, and ordered them to carry out the plan of attack.

Lieut. Warrender, of H. M. S. Amphion, led the Battery. The leader of the right half battery was Lieut. Hammond, of the Amphion, and Lieut. Courage, of the Icarus, led the left. There were six companies of bluejackets, with a complement of 44 men to each company, and they were commanded as follows:

No. 1 Co.—Lieut. Armstrong, Swiftsure.

No. 2 Co.-Lieut. Stapleton, Swiftsure.

No. 3 Co.—Lieut. Ross, Swiftsure.

No. 4 Co.—Lieut. Story, Amphion.

No. 5 Co.—Lieut. Chads, Amphion.

No. 6 Co.—Lieut Hay, Icarus.

The divisional leaders of the battery were : Gunners Mahoney, McCarty, Eggby and Talbot. The battery consisted of one 5-barrelled Nordenieldt of the latest pattern, two 9-lb guns, three 7-lb guns and three Gardner guns.

When Capt. Hammet had placed all his men into position ready for the attack on the hill, they were in this order : On the extreme right and sheltered by a friendly hollow, was a division of the battery holding a 7-lb. gun and a Gardner. Next to them were two detachments of marines hustled up in the woods in close order waiting for the word to open fire. On their left were three fighting columns of bluejackets, armed with Martinis. These were ordered not to advance on the general order being given, but to await further commands. This body was flanked at each end by a Gardner gun. At the extreme left was the commander, with his staff in the rear of the left half battery, consisting of two 9-lb. guns and a 7 pounder.

Right on the crest of Beacon Hill, and overlooking the woods in which the enemy were concealed, Major Peters had marshalled his main body, which consisted of the volunteers under Col. Prior and his own "C" battery under the immediate command of Capt. Benson and Lieuts. Ogilvie and Gaudet. The right half division was under the command of Capt. Benson, assisted by Lieut. Gaudet, while Lieut. Ogilvie was in command of the left division. At a quarter to two the Major dispatched a skirmishing party of twenty-four men on the slope of the hill two hundred yards in front of the main body, and these spread themselves in two lines in the bushes in loose order ready to open fire on the enemy. The main body was formed into the shape of a horseshoe on the crest of the hill in front of the Union Jack, and in this position there was a wait of twenty minutes. At 2.20 the outposts gave the alarm, the leading lines of the bluejackets' fighting column having been espied among the trees skirting the wood at the foot of the hill.

As soon as Captain Hammet found that he was discovered, he ordered the battery of three guns on his extreme left to open fire on the hill, and on the boom of the cannon being heard, the skirmishers of the defending force returned the attack with independent firing along the line of the outposts. The two guns on the extreme right of the woods then took up the firing, and advanced at the double to a point of vantage two hundred yards in front under a ledge of rock. From this place they continued their fire, covering the advance of the two detachments of marines, who came on doubling in open order from their shelter in the woods. Then they halted and started a heavy, continuous and independent ground fire, responded to by the defenders of the hill with well delivered volleys. This firing was exchanged for ten minutes, but the volunteers kept quiet and waited for a further advance before moving in the battle. It was not until the order was issued for the three fighting columns of bluejackets to advance on the hill that the engagement became general. While the marines were still at their independent firing, the main body of the fighting column fired volley after volley into the defended camp, and it was not long before the order was given for the skirmishing party to retire into the main body, who were then spread loose over the brow of the hill. The left half battery of the invaders was then rushed forward to within 200 yards of the hill, when the gun carriages were unlimbered and a second and most effective cannonade opened up. On seeing the defending force weaken in their firing and retiring in every direction, the leader of the enemy gave the general order to advance at the double.

At the conclusion of the fight the two forces were marshalled on the road leading around the hill and marched in fours to the parade ground, where the whole battalion was formed into a long line two deep in the following order :---On the extreme right was the naval battery; next to them came the blue jackets, then the marines, then the men of "C" Battery, and on the extreme left the members of the British Columbia Garrison Artillery. After a wait of ten minutes Admiral Heneage was driven up to the saluting point. On his arrival the Standard was at once unfurled, and a feu de joie saluted the flag as it was flung to the breezes. The band of the Swiftsure, stationed at the back of the long column, played. "God Save the Queen" in the meantime, and three hearty cheers followed as the strains of the National Anthem died away. The march past was conducted in the same order as the line had been ranged in, and the applause that was awarded each company as it swept past the Admiral in admirable order and machine like step was no less hearty than it was well deserved. The manner in which the naval and military brigades marched past was excellent. In fact, Admiral Heneage, when he in a few well spoken words congratulated the officers on the perfection to which the drill of the various companies had been brought, at the same time expressing the pleasure it had given him to witness it, only echoed the sentiments of the large crowds of spectators assembled round him. The members of the B. C. B. G. A. especially came in for a well deserved share of the praise heard on all sides. The members of the brigade executed all their moments with a precision that left nothing to be desired, and reflected credit in no small degree on both officers and men

At the conclusion of the marching past, which was performed by company, by battalions, and in close order at the double, the naval battery gave an exhibition of cutlass exercise and practice with the guns which was loudly applauded. The manner in which the guns were unlimbered and returned reflected the greatest credit on the men forming the battery.

The departure of the whole body in fours from the hill, headed by the band playing lively airs, was the signal for a general clearance, although large crowds wandered away among the cool and shady nooks about the artificial lake, and there spent an hour or two in delightful idleness.

Regimental News.

The Yarmouth, N.S., artillery had a church parade on Sunday, 19th May. They left the armoury at 10 o'clock, headed by the Yarmouth brass band, and marched to All Saints, Milton, where a special service and sermon was delivered by Rev. J. Harrison. The marching and fine appearance of Capt. Jolly's men was the subject of favourable comment all along the route, while the music of the band showed a

careful and competent instructor in Prof. Bramhall. The service was heartily entered into, and the sermon listened to with marked attention by all present in the crowded chapel. Over a hundred persons were unable to find even standing room, many waiting outside till the service was over to enjoy the music and a sight of the soldiers. Present on parade—2 officers, 3 sergeants, 2 drums, 36 rank and file and 18 band.

The officers of the 66th Princess Louise Fusiliers entertained their late commanding officer, Lieut. Col. C. J. Macdonald, at a dinner at the Halifax hotel on the 27th May on, his retiring from the regiment, Lieut.-Col. Humphrey presiding. Besides the officers of the regiment Lieut.-Cols. Murray, Mackintosh and Wainwright and officers from the West Riding and Royal Artillery were present. After the cloth had been removed and the usual toast to the Queen, the chairman proposed ' Lieut.-Col. Macdonald, the guest of the evening, referring to his long service in connection with the regiment and the satisfaction given to the officers. He regretted the necessity on account of official duties which compelled him to retire, and assured him that he left the battalion with the best wishes and esteem of every officer and man in the regiment. Lieut.-Col. Macdonald feelingly responded, thanking the officers for the support at all times given him, and assuring them that although not actually connected with them, yet he must always feel an interest in their welfare and future prosperity.

THE NEW COLOURS OF THE FIFTY-FOURTH.

The presentation of new colours to the 54th Richmond Battalion, on the Queen's Birthday, was noted in last issue. Below are the address and reply incident to the occasion.

A square was formed, into which the invited guests, including the Honourables Mrs. Aylmer, Mrs. H. L. Aylmer, Miss Aylmer, Mrs. Blackwell, the clergy and others, were admitted. After prayer by the Rev. James Hepburn, M. A., chaplain of the 54th, Mrs. Gawne and Mrs. Brown, on behalf of the ladies of Richmond and Drummond, presented the colours. Mrs. Gawne read the following address :

To Lieut.-Col. the Right Honourable Udolphus Lord Aylmer, officers and non-commissioned officers of the 54th Batt. Light Infantry, Richmond, P. Que., Canada, May 24th, 1889.

My LORD,—On behalf of the ladies of the counties of Richmond and Drummond, I have much pleasure in presenting you with the following address.

We are aware of the fact that in the year 1867, the 53rd Batt. at Sherbrooke being divided, the 54th was organized, and that you, my Lord, were transferred from the 53rd Batt. to the command of the 54th Batt., now over a period of twenty-two years, and that your Lordship's services as an officer in the loyal Canadian Militia extend over a half a century. We feel proud to know that the 54th has still on the roll some of the original members of the Batt. when formed in 1867. We also remember that in 1870 the 54th sent representatives to the Red River expedition. If the civil authorities have thus shown their knowledge of the fact that the 54th was always ready, how much more must the ladies, who are especially interested in the Batt., feel pride in the valour of its officers and men? The ladies being desirous of giving a tangible expression to their feelings of admiration for the 54th Batt., have much pleasure in presenting this set of colours, with the certainty that whenever the regiment is called out to fight for Queen and country, hearths and homes, it will not only be true to its new badge, "Steady," but as always of yore "Ready, Aye Ready."

Signed on behalf of the ladies of Richmond and Drummond,

FRANCES ISABEL GAWNE,

E. Adeline Brown.

God Save the Queen.

May 24th, 1889.

To which Lord Aylmer replied :

Ladies of Richmond and Drummond :

It gives me the highest gratification to accept from you the elegant and costly set of colours which your generosity and united efforts are to day bestowing upon the regiment which I have the honour to command. Time was when fair ladies spurred on their chosen knights to deeds of daring and adventure, and he who had oftenest been engaged in the bloody encouter, was held in highest honour. Thanks to the advance of our Christian civilization, it is no longer so honourable to seek war as to promote peace; yet the spirit of martial valour has not declined, because the surest way to maintain peace is to be well equipped for war, and to be ready to undertake it in a just cause. Chivalry has but taken a new form and whilst we soldiers are sworn to fight for Queen and country, fair ladies are still in the fore-front to encourage us in maintaining the honour and esprit de corps of our regiment and may even present us with such a talisman as this beautiful banner, which as we look upon it will remind us of the hearths and homes of which we are proud, and over which the example of our noble Queen has for half a century shed a radiant influence.

Not many here present can make the retrospect of half a century's volunteering, and I-may be permitted to remind you that on an occasion similar to the present, about twenty years ago, we were guests of the 53rd Battalion, whom we most gladly welcome among us to-day both as neighbours and friendly rivals.

I fully appreciate the high compliment that you have paid me, in selecting for the design of these regimental colours, the coat-of-arms and motto of my family. That family has, uninterruptedly, since the days of Edward the First, sent representatives into the British service, and some of England's most distinguished officers, both in army and navy, have borne the name of Aylmer. I am proud of my descent and of my armorial bearings, and I should not for a moment have entertained the idea of allowing my coat-of-arms to be used in this way did I not know, from long experience, the 54th Batt. would fully maintain its honour and integrity, and would only add to its lustre if called upon to rally round their banner in the field. The Canadian volunteers have more than once had the eyes of the world upon them; but I, my friends have for a long life-time shared with them a struggle in which they daily engage, namely, the building up of a young country, and I know that we, who have constantly to face difficulties that we may subdue the forces of nature and bring them under man's dominion, need fear no foe in an open field, since we are already trained to see quickly and strike boldly. In this peaceful daily warfare, the ladies do a great deal of the fighting, we very well know, and if we can once get them into Parliament, I am sure there will be no more grumbling complaints about "the country not appreciating our services." But that day will not be for me to see, and I am old-fashioned enough to like the ladies as they are, feeling also assured that those at any rate who are with us to-day, could ill be spared from the spheres which they already so ably fill. I call upon you officers and men, to give three cheers for Mrs. Gawne, Mrs. Brown and the ladies who are associated with them in the kindly effort they have made in our behalf.

Queries and Replies.

"ANY RIFLES" COMPARED WITH THE SNIDER.

Q. Supposing two teams of 8 men each are shooting a match of 7 shots each at 200, 400 and 500 or 200, 500 and 600 yards. One team uses the Snider only, and the other uses Martinis, Express, Match and Ballard rifles, etc. Will the latter kinds of rifles give the team using them any advantage over the team using Sniders, and if so, about how much; *i. e.*, can better scores be made with "any" rifle than the Snider, taking other things as equal ?—REGINA.

A. Without doubt better scores can and should be made with the other rifles mentioned than with the Snider. But whether or not a team using "any rifles" would have an advantage over another using the Snider, is another question. It would depend largely upon the skill of the team. Were the members expert marksmen, the possession of the finer weapons would be a great advantage; a Martini giving over a Snider probably 3 or 4 points per man advantage at 200, 400 and 500 yards, and 6 or 8 points per man at 200, 500 and 600. But the class of shots who average between 60 and 70 out of 105 points, firing with the Snider at Queen's ranges, would probably not make any more with the Martini. A badly fired shot that from a Martini would only give an outer, would be quite apt to score a magpie or inner if fired from the less exact Snider. In one club we could name the Snider practices for a roll of between 30 and 40 members show higher average scores than the Martinis, because the Snider is more familiar to the riflemen.—ED.

The Rifle.

ASSINIBOIA PROVINCIAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

[Regina Leader, 28 May, 1885.]

The first of the inter association matches arranged for the season came off on Friday last in the presence of a large number of spectators, among whom were a number of our fair residents. It was a beautiful day, but the glare of the sun and a strong mirage made good scores almost an impossibility. The match was against a team of the Edmonton Rifle Association, seven shots each, Snider rifles, any position, head to target. No sighting shots. The following are the names and scores of the Regina team:—

R. Sweet J. T. Stemshorn Major D. Mowat J. F. Mowat	30 27 28	22 24 18	27 14 11	65 57	R. J. Steel F. Nash C. F. James H. A. Carruthers	21 26 14	20 17 24	9 5 5	48 43
							. 4	10	42

Total 438, against a total made by the Edmonton team of 568.

In a spoon competition on Friday afternoon, the tablespoon was won by Major D. Mowat, and the teaspoon by R. Sweet.

The match against Alberta (Calgary) Provincial Rifle Association, team was shot on Saturday. The weather was rather cloudy with a light gusty wind from the west. Seven shots each, Snider rifles only. Scores of the Regina team:

• ·								•		•
Major D. Mowat R. Sweet J. T. Stemshorn F. Nash	30 27 20	23 22 23	17 14 18	63 61	J. F. Mowat H. A Carruthers R. J. Steel C. F. James	20 25 15	21 18 25	13 11 7	54 47	

The Regina team's total score was therefore 448, against a score of 654 made by the Calgary team. A match was also shot against a team of the Saskatchewan Provincial Rifle Association (Prince Altert), five shots each, when Regina made:—

	2	4	5	tl.	•	2	4	5	tl., '
Major D. Mowat					J. F. Mowat	12	14	Ĩ3	39
J. T. Stemshorn	15	17	ıĞ	48	H. A. Carruthers	17	II	8	36
R. Sweet	20	18	10	48	R. J. Steel				
F. Nash					C. F. James	13	8	8	29

Regina team's score 333, against 446 made by Prince Albert. In spite of defeat our Regina marksmen need not despair. Shooters, like Rome, are not built in a day. Let them practise and we prophesy better luck next time. We advise more members to turn out and thus provoke a keener competition for places on the match teams. We have a number of excellent shots who, however, have only turned out once or twice thus far in the season. They should compete and keep up the honour of the youngest provincial association in the Dominion.

There was also a spoon competition on Saturday in addition to the above matches, when the following members took part in addition to the members of the teams above mentioned, S. S. Philippe, J. W. Jowett, W. M. Williamson, A. J. Fraser and Dr. Willoughby. Major D. Mowat won the tablespoon for the third time this season with his score of 70, and J. T. Stemshorn the teaspoon with 61.

COBOURG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

At the annual meeting of the Cobourg Rifle Association, the following officers were elected for 1889-80: Lady patroness, Mrs. J. Vance Graveley; president, Lt.-Col. J. Vance Graveley; vice-president, Lieut. David McNaughton; secretary-treasurer, E A. Macnachtan; council, Capt. H. J. Snelgrove, Capt. John McCaughey, Sergt. Geo. Archer and Corpl. R. Lunn. Arrangements were made for target practice at the rifle range, east of the town, every Saturday afternoon.

The secretary-trersurer, in presenting the twenty-first annual report, congratulated the association upon the successful operations of the past year, more especially upon the great improvement in shooting, and the large number of young marksmen who have taken part in the matches. "This improvement," Mr. Macnachtan said, "is attributable to the encouragement given and the facilities offered by the association for holding regular and systematic practice on the ranges one day in the week. An interesting feature of last year's work was the 'extra series" and 'revolver matches,'-of which many members took advantage. Through the kindness of Col. Rogers and Capts. Snelgrove and McCaughey, for the first time in its history the association has been able to secure the use of the Martini-Henry rifle upon the range. It is hoped that this or some other improved arm may soon become general in the service. The thanks of the association are due to the citizens of Cobourg for their continued liberality in donating numerous prizes, without which the association would have difficulty in extending the prize list. As the targets are now in position at the butts, it is hoped that no time will be lost in going into regular practice, and that by dint of practice some of our sharpshooters will avail themselves of the high prizes offered by the Dominion and Ontario Rifle Associations, at whose grand matches several members of the Cobourg Rifle Association have won honourable renown in the past."

THE HARSTON RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The Harston Rifle Association in connection with "E" Co., Royal Grenadiers, on Saturday fired the first stage of a match extending through the whole season's practice. The light being changeable and the wind variable, no very high scores were made. Below is a list of the prizes and the scores made in the first stage :

Harston match—Six prizes, value \$21. First prize, \$6; second prize, \$5; third prize, \$4; fourth prize, \$3; fifth prize, \$2; sixth prize, \$1. To be won by the members making the six highest aggregates of all the scores on Saturdays from June 1 till the annual regimental match in the fall.

Vernier match—Prize, a vernier; to be won by the highest aggregate of any three scores on Saturday afternoons between June 1 and date of regimental mach, the highest scorer each Saturday to hold the vernier for one week. Here are the scores in the first day's shooting: Corp. Brooks, 58; Pte. Irvine, 48; Pte. Suter, 46; Sergt. Spence, 46; Pte. Mead, 45; Staff-Sergt. Dent, 44; Pte. T. Bennett, 41; Pte. W. Ferris, 33, and Pte. Hamilton, 24. Corp. Brooks holds the vernier for one week.

THE VICTORIA RIFLES.

2nd Class-E. W. Wilson 61, dessert spoon; W. Rodden 40, E. H. Brown 38.

3rd Class—R. Binmore 71, tea spoon; F. Burton 70, F. Carter 67. A rear wind and dull light knocked a lot of the younger shots out of time. R. Binmore won the ammunition prize for green shots in No. 3 Company.

OTTAWA RIFLE CLUB.

The weekly shoot of this club, last Saturday, took place in the rain. The attendance was much smaller than usual. Martinis were used at 200, 500 and 600 yards, with the following result:

Major J. Wright (sp 1st cl) 28 28 30	86	R. H. Brown (sp 2nd cl) 30 29 15	74
Major A. P. Sherwood 26 25 32	84	N. Slater 29 19 24	72
Capt. S. M. Rogers 31 25 27	8 <u>3</u>	F. W. Smith 27 20 24	71
Lieut. W. A. Jamieson 28 29 26	83	C. S. Scott 28 19 24	71
Lieut. E. D. Sutherland. 29 22 28	79	J. H. Ellis 25 22 23	. 70
Lieut. J. W. O'Grady 25 30 23	78	T. McJanet 26 21 23	70
H. McKay (sp. 3rd cls.). 29 30 18	77	M. Rolfe 22 21 29	68
Dr. Geo. Hutchison 27 29 18	74	L. Gooding 21 28 10	59

How to Shoot Well.

A man stands near the blotter holding in his hand a thin stick about twelve inches long, on the end of which is a diminutive circular bull'seye, black, with a hole punctured in the centre large enough to admit the point of a pencil. Now the recruit takes his position, and without touching the rifle sights it on the blotter and calls to the man pointing to place the little bull's-eye where he says, at the same time directing him to move the pointer up, down, right or left, until it comes perfectly within the line of sight, as the gun is pointed. When the bull's-eye is exactly in range, (precisely as he would have it were he sighting at a bona fide target 200, 300, 600, or 1,000 yards distant), he calls stop, and the scorer inserts the pencil through the inch bull's-eye, and makes a dot. This is the first step. The recruit steps away, and the rifle, which is supposed to be immovable, remains still pointed on the same spot. The observer rests his eye for a minute, comes back and goes through the same tactics twice more—three in all—the scorer each time making a tiny mark as the former calls out stop. When the trials are over, the triad of dots is connected by lines, and the marksman steps down to the blotter to see where his hits are. It is truly astonishing how wide of the mark some of them do go, not excepting experienced marksmen, and even sharpshooters. Considering the first dot to be a hit, were the others sighted at a target or a deer as they were at the blotter, they would have been clear misses. The fault was in not taking the same bead three times in succession. The importance of this apparent trifling point cannot be overestimated. Large scores are not composed of scattered bull's-eyes, but of consecutive bull's eyes in which each succeeding shot reaches nearly the same spot struck by the others, and to get a succession of shots that are regular and not scattering, it is necessary to sight successively in precisely the same manner. Any variation will scatter, and nine-tenths of the trouble lies in not drawing always the same size of bead. Had the recruit in the case of the blotter confined himself either to the small, medium, or large bead, the chances are that the pencil would have scored three times on the same dot. Let those who want to improve their rifle shooting try the above scheme and they will be astonished at the benefit gained. It will give evenness of sighting before very long; and probably explain, too, some of the unaccountable misses at former trials. The caliber and rifling of a gun nowadays have a great deal to do with the efficiency of the piece. Heretofore the inclination has been towards large bores. Some foreign governments still cling to 50 calibers and in one case I think 56 is the standard adopted by a power. So it is with our, militia. Some are now using 50 caliber, old pattern rifles, and fondly imagine they can do good work with these miniature out-of-date cannons. Why, the recoil of such a piece is sufficient to frighten any beginner, and the execution is virtually nil, compared to smaller bores. Forty-five is the standard of our government, and 40 would be far better. A happy medium, say of 42-caliber, would fill the bill completely as to a general service rifle for both short and long range.

Trajectory has a great deal to do with the efficiency of a rifle. Not everyone understands the full significance and importance of this adjunct, and as it is an element which enters largely into the possibility of fine shooting, I will give a few explanations for the benefit of those who do not understand trajectories.

The trajectory is the path of the bullet through the air. A bullet

fired from a rifle is acted upon by five different forces. First, the projectile force; second, the resistance of the air; third, the force of gravity; fourth, the resistance of the sides of the grooves; fifth, friction against the surface of the bore. A variation in the intensity of any of these forces will effect a corresponding change in the path described by the bullet. Geography has also something to do with the matter, as both altitude and the condition of the atmosphere work a variation in the elevation. The above forces, in whatever latitude, are seldom or never the same at any two different times, so that two bullets will rarely strike in the same place, even though the piece be held perfectly or placed in a vice when fired. The resistance of the air and gravity are the main forces which affect a bullet after it passes the muzzle. The former decreases in proportion as the speed of the projectile lessens, while the latter acts always alike; no matter at what speed the lead is flying. Therefore a ball in its flight does not, as is generally supposed, describe a perfect arc in the air, but tather a curve somewhat sharper at its ending than its beginning half. The gun which has its correct length of bore, the right number of twists in the grooving, the proper charge of powder for the size of the chamber and length of the barrel, and a bullet of a weight in proportion to the amount of powder behind it, is apt to give the best results. Equalize the five forces as nearly as possible, and such a gun approaches nearest perfection. Gunmakers are constantly striving to do this, and the result is the fine rifles now turned out by the first-class factories.

In casting elevations on a strange range always remember that damp, moist days require less elevation than hot, dry ones. Also, watch the bullet as it flies through the air, and observe where it drops. Some marksmen are utterly at a loss to know just where that "confounded bullet did go." I say watch it and then you can tell. I know this caution appears to be a strange one, but let me say that it is strictly true, and not the least bit difficult to accomplish. I have watched thousands of bullets, from the time they left the muzzle of the gun until they struck, and have called the shots accurately and truly. Let any one stand behind a shooter, and train his eye to quick perception. Do not look at the muzzle, but about twenty feet beyond, or rather, just beyond the point where the puff of smoke reaches, and after a little practice he will be able to distinguish the little leaden pellet as it darts out, and to follow it, too, every foot of its journey through space. Don't give up in disgust after the first few trials, but try again. It is a very easy thing to do, and no trick at all for a sharp-sighted person.

The last and most important point of all is "pulling off." Of all the misses made by anybody when firing at an object, charge better than 50 per cent. of them to defective pulling of the trigger. Nearly every rifleman in the world, be he a greenhorn or an expert, deranges his aim to a more or less degree when he pulls off the piece. First-class riflemen will, as a general rule, flatly deny any such imputation against their superior marksmanship, and will claim that they have, long ago, mastered the defective pulling of the trigger; but the real expert (who is one or two grades above the first-class rifleman), knows better than this, and that, as a matter of fact, not one rifleman in a thousand pulls off his piece perfectly. Now, if our best shots cannot always thoroughly overcome this one drawback to fine shooting after years of hard practice, how difficult must it be for the ordinary soldier or militiaman to master it? Hence it is that pointing and aiming drills are continuously practiced in the army, so as to give the soldier whether standing, kneeling, or lying down, a perfect command of his rifle, as well as to teach him steadiness of both person and piece, and to establish between the hand and the eye such a prompt and intimate connection as will insure the finger acting upon the trigger at the proper moment without causing any derangement of the aim.

The best riflemen at Creedmoor and elsewhere, before entering a match, spend the half hour previous to the contest in pointing, aiming, and snapping the trigger at a small spot on the wall or tent, so as to have their nerves and trigger finger in training before commencing the competing scores. The pointing and aiming drills are the most important parts of the training necessary to make "a man with a gun" a good shot.

Pull off perfectly at the spot on the wall, and the real bull's-eye becomes a much easier matter to hit. One of the best riflemen I ever knew was a moderate drinker, and an inveterate smoker. Before entering a very important competition he suddenly cut short his drinking and smoking habits, and in consequence thereof went utterly to pieces in the match. The change was too great for him. Next time he kept up his regular habits, drank moderately, and smoked all he wanted to, and won the match. Smoking and drinking by no means aid marksmanship, but regularity of habits, whether good or bad, should always be observed by the embryo medal winner. Last of all, remember that riflemen are made and not born. Practice makes the marksman, not inheritance. It is within the province of everyone to become at least a fair shot, and if the student will at least observe a few of the above rules, which are calculated to transform the greenest of raw recruits into something better, he will find before very long that his labour has not been in vain.

Militia General Orders (No. 10) of 31st May, 1889.

No. 1.-REGULATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL DRILL OF 1889-90.

Camps.—Adverting to No. 1 of General Orders (8), 10th May, 1889, the places of the several "camps of exercise" are as follows :—

Military	District No.	2	Niagara, Ont.
66		3 and 4	Gananoque, Ont.
"	" "	Ğ	Sorel. Oue.
		7	Levis, Oue.
. **	44	8	St. Andrews, N.B.
	_	-	

No. 2.—Permanent Corps. 3rd Prov. Regt. of Cav.-"B" Troop-To be 2nd licut., prov., Charles E. Weeks, vice David Fallis, deceased.

Gov. Gen.'s Body Guard for Ont.-To be lieut.-col., Major and Brevet Lieut.-Col. George Taylor Denison, C.C.

To be major, Capt. and Brevet Lieut. Col. Frederick Charles Denison, C.M.G., C.C., vice G. T. Denison, promoted.

Capt. Clarence Alfred Kinsey Denison, C.C., vacates the adjutancy and takes command of a troop, vice F. C. Denison, promoted. To be capt., Lieut. William Hamilton Merritt, C.C., vice James McConnell,

who retires retaining rank. Lieut. Robert Elliott retires retaining rank, and the resignation of 2nd Lieut.

John Davidson Hamill is accepted. Queen's Own Canadian Hussars.- A Troop.-To be lieut., from 21st May,

1889, 2nd Lieut. Andrew H. D. W. Breakey, R. S. C., vice Martin, appointed Paymaster.

To be 2nd lieut., prov., from 21st May, 1889, William A. C. Baldwin, vice Breakey, promoted.

To be paymaster, from 21st May, 1889, Lieut. and Hon. Captain William W. Martin, from A Troop, vice Brevet Major William M. McDonald, who is placed on the retired list retaining his brevet rank.

Quebec Field Battery.—Memo.—That portion of No. 7 of General Orders (7) 3rd May, 1889, in which the resignation of 2nd Lieut. Hamel is accepted, is amended by permitting that officer who held also the rank of Lieutenant in the militia to retire retaining his militia rank.

London Field Bat.—To be veterinary surgeon, Charles Samuel Tamlin, V.S., vice James H. Tennet, who resigns.

Woodstock Field Bat .-- To be 2nd lieut., prov., Sergt. Major William C. Good (R.S.A., 2nd B), vice Garden, resigned.

Regt. of Canadian Art. - To be major, from 16th May, 1889, Lieut. and Brevet Capt. Charles William Drury, vice Charles John Short, deceased. Major Drury is detached from "A" Battery and attached to "B" Battery; and

Lieut. William Peter Burroughs has been detached from "B" Battery, from 22nd May, and attached to "A" Battery.

Montreal Brig. Gar. Art.-To be 2nd lieut., prov., Richard Costigan, vice Gregor promoted. Captain David Stevenson resigns.

New Brunswick Brig. Gar. Art.-No. I Bat.-To be capt., Capt. Stanley Douglas Crawford, G.S., from No. 3 Bat., vice Seely, promoted.

No. 2 Bat .--- To be lieut., prov., Bombdr. John Babington Macaulgy Baxter, vice Albert Arthur Clark, who resigns.

No. 3 Bat.-To be capt. Lieut. George Kerr McLeod, R.S.A., vice Crawford, transferred to No. 1 Bat.

No. 5 Bat.—Capt. Edward Jewett Scammell retires retaining rank.

Lunenburg Bat. Gar. Art. -- To be capt., prov., George Albert Pollcy, vice James H. Brown, who resigns.

2nd Lieut. Andrew Silver resigns.

Pictou Bat. Gar. Art.-To be lieut., prov. and specially, Edward Mortimer MacDonald, vice Davies, retired.

P.E.I. Brig. Gar. Art.-No. 4 Bat.-To be lieut., 2nd Lieut. Donald Leslie, R.S.A., vice Richard Kicham, who resigns.

To be 2nd lieut., prov., James J. Hughes, vice Leslie, promoted.

2nd Bn.-2nd Lieut. Thomas Cowper Robinette resigns.

Erratum. — In No. 4 of General Orders (9), 17th May, 1889, read "Colour-Sergt. Robert Ceugh Le Vesconte, prov.," instead of "Colour-Sergt. Robert Ceugh Le Vescomte."

20th Bn.-No. 7 Co.-Lieut. Joseph Walker Rolls retires retaining rank.

To be 2nd lieut., prov., Paymaster Sergt. John James Zealand, from 13th Bn, vice Walter Merriman Johnson, who resigns.

23rd Bn.-To be quartermaster, Geo. L. Tashereau, vice Antoine A. Lemieux, who having the relative rank of captain, retires with honorary rank of captain.

25th Bn.-Major William Faulds retires retaining rank.

26th Bn.-No. 3 Co.-To be capt., Lieut. Robert McEwen, V. B., from No. 1 Co., vice Lumley, resigned.

28th Bn.-To be surgeon, Assistant Surgeon William Tiffany Parke, vice Fraser, resigned.

To be asst. surgeon, Charles Patten Clark, vice Parke, promoted. No. 1 Co.—Adverting to the appointment of Lieut. Robb in No. 7 of General Orders, (7) 3rd May, 1889, add "provisionally "after the words "To be lieut.

30th Bn.-No. 3 Co.-To be lieut., prov., Private Alexander George Anderson, vice Murray, resigned.

31st Bn.-No. 1 Co.-To be 2nd lieut., prov., Clement Brooke Marsland, vice George Ross, left limits.

37th Bn.-No. 8 Co.-To be capt., Lieut. Joseph Missett Mussin, R.S.I., vice William Mussin, deceased.

38th Bn.-To be assistant-surgeon, Herbert Augustus Minchin, M.D., vice - Edwin Rubergall Bishop, who resigns.

39th Bn. - To be majors, Capt. John Wesley Ryerson, R.S.I., from No. 1 Co., vice Thompson, promoted ; Lieut. James Lorne Campbell, R.S.I., from No. 6 Co., vice Coombs, promoted.

No. 3 Co.-To be lieut., prov., Sergt. Lewis Price, vice Walker Powell Ferris, who retires retaining rank. No. 7 Co.-2nd. Lieut. William Robert Reid resigns,

and Bn.-No. 4 Co.-To be lieut., 2nd. Lieut. George Henry Darling, R.S.I., vice Bowen, appointed adjt.

43rd Bn.-No. 2 Co.-To be 2nd lieut., prov., Colour Sergt. Antoine Peroton,

vice C. M. Wright, promoted capt. No. 3 Co.—To be 2nd lieut., prov., Hospital Sergt. William Andrew Jamieson, vice Lawless, promoted.

46th Bn.-No. 2 Co.-To be 2nd lieut., prov., Colour Sergt. William Henry Moyse (S.I., 2nd B), vice Martin, resigned.

No. 6 Co.-To be lieut., prov., Corp. James Henry Staples (S. I., 2nd B), vice Preston, promoted.

50th Bn.-No. 4 Co.-To be lieut., prov., Philip McGinnis, vice J. B. Adams. To be 2nd lieut., prov., Duncan Muzo, vice Gilmore.

To be paymaster, Orderly Room Clerk Joseph J. Ross, vice Robert Middlemiss, deceased.

53rd Bn.--Promotions in this battalion, being a city corps, will in future be made according to seniority in the battalion.

To be capt., Quarter-Master Thomas Rawson, M.S., vice Fales, retired.

To be 2nd lieut., prov., John David Lloyd, vice Somers, resigned. To be quarter-master, Alexander Thomas Winter, V.B., vice Rawson, appointed

capt.

56th Bn. -- No. 3 Co.-Lieut. Edwin Burritt retires retaining rank.

68th Bn.-No. 10 Co.-To be 2nd_lieut., prov., Frederick Webster Clarke, vice reremiah Foote, left limits.

78th Bn.-No. 7 Co.-2nd Lieut. Edward Myrtimer MacDonald resigns.

96th Bn.—No. 5 Co.—The headquarters of this company are changed from "Manitowaning" to "Thessalon." To be capt., prov., Pte. William Alonzo

Keetch, vice William Loe Smith, who resigns. To be lieut., prov., Pte. Thomas A. Strain, vice William Wallace McCoy, out of

limits. To be 2nd lieut., prov., Pte. John Glanville, vice James Bassingthwaight, out of limits.

No. 6 Co.-The "Sault Ste. Marie Rifle (half) Company" is detached from the Sault Ste. Marie half battery of Mountain Artillery, raised to a full company and attached to the 96th Battallion as "No. 6 Company," at Sault Ste. Marie.

To be captain prov., William R. Cunningham. To be lieut., Lieut. William John Thompson, S. I., from No. 9 Company, 30th

Battalion, vice Thomas A. P. Towers, who resigns.

To be 2nd lieut. prov., Abraham L. Friedman, (S. I., 2nd B). CONFIRMATION OF RANK.

Lieut James Lorne Campbell, R. S. I., No. 6 Company, 39th Battalion, from 22nd May, 1889.

No. 3.—CERTIF:CATES GRANTED.

				Percentage of marks obtained			
Rank, Name and Corps.	Class.	Course.	Grade.	Written.	Practical.	Aggregate Percentage.	
Royal Schools of Artillery, Gunner W. Back, "A" Battery, R.C.A Gunner F. Chapman, "A" Battery, R.C.A Gunner W. McIntyre, "A" Battery, R.C.A Gunner D. Shawcross, "A" Battery, R.C.A Gunner R. A. Long, "A" Battery, R.C.A Gunner J. Rose, "A" Battery, R.C.A	1 1 2	ທຸກອອ	B B B B B B	.92 .92 .85 .86 .65 .46	. 89 . 89 . 93 . 80 . 70 . 77	.90 90 .90 .82 .68] .66]	
Royal Schools of Infantry.							
Capt. J. W. Ryerson, 39th Batt	I I	Sp Sp	A A	·79 ·74	·74 .72	·77 ·73	

Memo.—The Certificate granted to Q.M. Sergeant J. Coombes, Hamilton Field Battery, is a "Long Course" Certificate, and not as described in G.O., 17th March 1889.

No. 4.—Associations for Drill in Educational Institutions.

Sorel College Drill Co.-The formation of this Drill Company is authorized under the provisions of paragraph 453, Regulations and Orders, 1887:

To act as Captain, Emmanuel Beauchemin.

To act as Lieutenant, Maurice Poliquin.

To act as 2nd Lieutenant, Ulric Chapdelaine.

Special Announcement.

We have made ascangements with Dr. B. J. Kendall Co., publishers of "A Treatise on the Horse and his Diseases," which will enable all our subscribers to obtain a copy of that valuable work *free* by sending their address (enclosing a two-cent stamp for mailing same) to DR. B. J. KENDALL Co., ENOSBURGH FALLS, VT. This book is now recognized as standard authority upon all diseases of the horse, as its phenomenal sale attests, over four million copies having been sold in the past ten years, a sale never before reached by any publication in the same period of time. We feel confident that our patrons will appreciate the work, and be glad to avail themselves of this opportunity of obtaining a valuable book. It is necessary that you mention this paper in sending for the "Treatise." This offer will remain open for only a short time.





THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE.

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