

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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

Third Year.  
VOL. III, No. 52.

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, 28th JUNE, 1888.

\$1.50 per annum in advance.  
Single Copies Five Cents.

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### The Dominion Rifle Association Programme.

THE prize list for the matches to be held on the 3rd September is out, and contains the programme which we indicated in our issue of the 24th May last. Want of space prevents us from reproducing it, but this is the less necessary as Col. Bacon sends copies to all members of the Association, and any other persons requiring them will be furnished, we are sure, on application.

There is no doubt that the changes made from last year's arrangements will meet with the approval of the competitors in every respect, though if the new Quebec ammunition keeps up the good reports lately received of it, it may be questioned whether it would not have been more satisfactory to have fired the whole three ranges of the Dominion match with the Snider.

We may add to our previous remarks concerning the changes, that for the purpose of making the range more difficult the bull's eye at 400 yards has been reduced in diameter to 20 inches; that nearly the whole of the additional prize money has been devoted to increasing the inferior prizes, so that there is now a greater chance of capturing a ten dollar prize, while except in the extra series matches the prizes of least value have been raised to five dollars, and lastly that pending an announcement of the new Governor-General's intentions towards the association, it has been necessary to leave out the match for the prizes usually offered by that functionary.

### Topics of the Week.

A new infantry equipment, known as the Slade-Wallace, after the names of the two designers, has, since its exhibition by Col. Slade at a meeting of the Royal United Service Institution in April last, attracted not a little attention in England. Mindful of his fellow Canadian volunteers and their interests, Gapt. Greville Harston has purchased in London and forwarded to the Minister of Militia a complete outfit of the new pattern. This Slade-Wallace equipment is claimed to be superior in every respect to the valise equipment of 1882 pattern. Its details are as follows:—The front ends of the braces are passed through D's on the belt and pouches, and buckled; the back ends after being buckled to the waist-belt behind, go round and support the great coat rolled 15 inches long, and the waterproof sheet if one is carried. The mess-tin rides on the coat, and is kept from shifting by the strap being passed through D on mess-tin cover, and runner on braces, and then round the great coat; the coat and mess-tin balance the ammunition which is carried in the pouches in front. The valise weighs only 1 lb. 8 ozs., and holds a complete field kit, including emergency ration and pair of shoes; it rides on the shoulders, the carrying straps passing through D's

on the braces just behind the shoulder-straps, and fastening to the front buckles of the braces. When on the march it can be worn high up or let down at the option of the wearer, by taking up or letting out the straps in front. The havresac has two short carrying straps, so that when the valise is not worn it can be carried in its place in the same manner. The pouches which have been made in anticipation of the introduction of the small-bore magazine rifle hold ninety rounds, thirty being in loops, and are so arranged that four cartridges can be got at readily without opening the pouch. These pouches sit close to, but well clear of, the body, and even when full of ammunition do not chafe or rub the sides and lower part of the body.

Thirty-two points out of eighty possible was the average scoring made by the troops in camp at Niagara in their annual practice. The low scores were no discredit to the men. They were as smart and intelligent a body as are to be found anywhere in the Dominion. True, the regulations for camp say that the greatest attention is to be paid to rifle shooting, and to an outsider it will appear strange that greater proficiency is not attained. But the mystery is explained when it is stated that these men fire only twenty shots in each two years of their service, and that so poor is the system of instruction that even this scanty allowance is wasted in hap-hazard firing. It would be no more ridiculous to expect the camp commandant to personally teach the whole brigade the rudiments of their drill, than it is to have one man, discharging the thankless duties of Musketry Instructor, personally teach the whole brigade how to shoot and hit, for the officers and non-commissioned officers, being appointed without any regard to their ability to instruct those under them in the use of their weapons, are generally of no use upon the range. Musketry instruction should be a company, not a brigade affair, and it should be the sole duty of the Brigade Musketry Instructor to see that the subordinate instructors were up in their work and attended to it.

A correspondent, doubtless vexed at getting the worst of a struggle with red tape, writes the MILITIA GAZETTE a letter indignantly protesting against members of the militia being compelled, as he says, to pay a duty on military rifles imported for target shooting purposes. There is no such tax, arms imported for the use of the militia being duty free, upon certificate of the Deputy Minister of Militia that articles so imported are of such a character as to be unfit for any other use. An order-in-council passed last year removed the grievance for some time existing on this score. Officers were granted the privilege of absolutely free importation of rifles, for their own use or the use of men under their command. "Military tailors and others," who have to pay the duty upon importations, secure a remission in full as soon as it is shown that the rifles have passed into the use of the militia. If our correspondent committed the error of making the importation himself instead of getting an officer to make it for him, his remedy lies in paying the duty and, producing the proper certificate, immediately securing a refund.

Arrangements have been completed for putting in two extra long range targets at the Rideau Range. This, although it will not give as much accommodation at 800 and 900 yards as there ought to be, will be a great improvement on last year, and will prevent the long range matches from being the eternal source of annoyance which they have heretofore proved. Want of ground alone prevented the further extension of the range in respect to long distance accommodation.

Some of this year's Quebec ammunition has been sent here, and two or three of our shots had a preliminary trial of it last week, and pronounced it satisfactory so far. Major Perley, who got in a possible at 500 yards, pronounces it particularly satisfactory. Firing it against the 1887 make, it appears to require two or three degrees less elevation, but those who made the trial are unwilling to commit themselves upon a test. Taking all the evidence so far adduced it looks as though single we might congratulate ourselves on a much needed improvement.

The Ontario Rifle Association shooting programme for 1888, which has just been prepared, shows no material changes from that of last year, the committee declining to follow the lead of the Dominion association in the matter of the abolition of Snider shooting at 600 yards, or the further substitution of the Martini for the rifle of the force. The prize list remains about the same. The matches, which will be fired on the Garrison Common ranges, Toronto, open on the last Monday in August, being held as usual one week in advance of the Dominion competition at Ottawa.

The feeling of insecurity which arose in Europe when the somewhat unexpected death of the respected and admired Frederick left the reins of government in Germany in the hands of a young and untried Prince, has gradually subsided, and the nations are congratulating themselves that the first utterances of the new Emperor are not bellicose, as was expected. But it is a serious business to have the fates of nations dependent, as they undoubtedly are, on the levelheadedness of one who has shown many traits of character far from admirable. We at least can congratulate ourselves that on this continent no one man possesses such absolute power, and that we are divided by an ocean from the powder mine that is inseparable from the maintenance of the vast standing armies of Europe.

The question of holding the Quebec provincial matches on the Rideau Range here is being gravely discussed, and, although at first sight it seems absurd for an association to desert its own territory, there appears to be no other way out of the difficulty. Even with more energetic action than is to be expected, the new ranges at Côte St. Luc can hardly be prepared in six weeks' time, and there is no other range in Quebec having a tithe of the necessary accommodation. There are some things to be said, too, in favor of the scheme. It would give the competitors practice on the Rideau Range in advance of the Dominion matches, and it would probably attract many shots from Ontario and so ensure a good attendance. If the association decides to adopt this plan, we can assure them of the cordial co-operation of the Ottawa shots.

The shabby trick played upon the volunteers from Niagara camp, sent by orders from headquarters to participate in the ceremonies connected with the formal opening of Niagara Falls Park on Thursday last, should serve as a lesson for the future. Notwithstanding the lavish promises of the local committee, the volunteers had no attention whatever paid to their needs when at the park, where they wanted for both food and water. After a miserable day, they returned to the camp thoroughly disgusted. As in the seven hundred who made the trip all the corps in camp—except the artillery—were represented, the work of the whole two thousand was interrupted. Surely the period of twelve days authorized for drill is short enough without lopping off a day here and there because politicians demand the loan of the troops to make money for local demonstration committees.

## COL. OTTER'S MODEL CAMP.

### The Second Military District Annual Outing at Niagara.

Strength and Composition of the Camp—The Staff—Artillery and Rifle Practice and the Results—Visit of General Middleton—No Holiday Manœuvres Prescribed—Except to Niagara—Where the Soldiers "got left"—Incidents of the Twelve Days' Under Canvas.

TWELVE days of honest service being completed, the camp of the second military district, which was formed at Niagara on the 12th inst., came to a conclusion on Saturday last, the 23rd. The corps in camp were C Co. of the Infantry School Corps; the Hamilton, Toronto, and Welland Canal Field Batteries; the 12th Battalion of Infantry, "York Rangers;" 34th "Ontario" Battalion of Infantry; 35th Battalion of Infantry, "Simcoe Foresters;" 36th "Peel" Battalion of Infantry; 37th "Haldimand" Battalion of Rifles; and the 77th "Wentworth" Battalion of Infantry. All were close on nominal strength—some over and some under. The total strength was as follows:

	OFFICERS.	N.C.O. AND MEN.
12th Battalion . . . . .	29	328
34th " . . . . .	17	278
35th " . . . . .	23	255
36th " . . . . .	22	336
37th " . . . . .	26	294
77th " . . . . .	19	258
Toronto Field Battery . . . . .	4	65
Hamilton " " . . . . .	5	66
Welland Canal F. B. . . . .	4	68
	149	1948

Lieut.-Col. Otter, D.A.G., was in command, and the staff was composed as follows: Brigade Major, Lieut.-Col. Gray; Paymaster, Lieut.-Col. Alger; Camp Adjutant and Provost Officer, Capt. Sears, I.S.C.; Supply Officer, Major McLaren, 13th Batt.; Camp Quartermaster, Capt. Mutton, Queen's Own Rifles; Musketry Instructor, Capt. Adam, 13th Batt.; Orderly Officer, Capt. Stuart, 13th Batt.; Principal Medical Officer, Surgeon Major Riddall, 36th Batt.

C Company, I.S.C., was largely drawn upon for the staff sergeants, Sergt.-Major Cumming and Quartermaster-Sergeant Swanson filling those positions for the brigade, Sergt. Davis being orderly room clerk, and Sergt. Lowe hospital sergeant. The supply sergeant was Sergt. Stannard, of the 13th Batt., and Sergt. Harris of the same corps was sergeant instructor of musketry. Sergt. Instructor Belan, of C Co., acted as Sergeant-Major of the 77th Batt.

#### A MODEL CAMPING GROUND.

The camp was delightfully situated, on the site which has now apparently become the permanent camping ground for the district, on the high land in rear of the town of Niagara, and overlooking the mouth of the Niagara river. Upon this ground, which is ordnance land, and therefore permanently available for military purposes, the whole Canadian militia might be comfortably quartered, so great is its extent. A generous allowance of space was made in laying out the camp, there being no crowding. One row of tents, from front to rear, was set apart for each company. The officers' tents were in rear of those of the men, and were separated from them by a spacious lawn, probably forty yards in width, running the entire length of the camp. At the rear boundary of the men's and officers' tents respectively, were the cooking conveniences, mess marquees, canteens, etc. The supply of water was drawn from artesian wells within the lines of each regiment, the water being of exceptional coolness and purity. In addition to these natural advantages, the extent of the parade ground available made it possible for each corps to drill apart from all the rest, interference and confusion being thus avoided.

The quarters of the commandant and staff were at the extreme left of the camp, in a well-shaded grove attached to an old wooden building now altogether dilapidated, but nevertheless useful for office and similar purposes. This building has probably seen half a century's service as a head centre for military men at Niagara.

#### THE WORK PERFORMED.

Strict attention was paid to the drill prescribed day by day in the brigade orders, and the drill was of the most practical character, purely parade movements being noticeable only by their absence.

Musketry instruction and target practice were looked after as carefully as possible by Capt. Jas. Adam of the 13th Battalion, Hamilton, whose name and record are well known to all riflemen of the Dominion. The unrevised returns show, however, that the brigade averaged at the targets only the poor figure of 32 points out of 80, the regiments being nearly equally bad, ranging from 37 points for the 34th Battalion to ten points lower for the 77th, the complete average being: 34th Batt., 37; 12th Batt., 34; 35th Batt., 33; 37th Batt., 31; 36th Batt., 30; 77th Batt., 27. No. 1 Company of the 34th Battalion made the very creditable average of 50 points, and No. 1 Co. of the 77th, with an average of 13 points, took undisputed possession of the other end of the roll of honour. There appeared to be none capable or willing to assist the brigade instructor in his onerous work at the ranges.

#### THE ARTILLERY PRACTICE.

The artillery practice was carried out at a point about three miles distant from the camp. There was considerable delay in securing a range, the new Chatauqua hotel being found in calm possession of the prescribed firing point, but on Wednesday, the 20th, the batteries got to work at another spot about a mile distant, and the weather being favourable for good shooting they continued for two days to make miserable the lives of the working party, who had every little while to put off in boats to mend the boom supporting the target, each shot which struck it causing lengthy delay. The returns of the practice show smaller figures than last year, a change in the system of scoring being no doubt largely responsible for the apparent falling off, while the use of common sights instead of Scott's improved may also have had something to do with it. The conditions of firing have appeared in detail in a recent issue. The scores were as follows:

	Welland.	Hamilton.	Toronto.
Preliminary.....	173	167	115
Final.....	157	113	123
Total.....	330	280	238

The executive officer in charge of the firing was Capt. V. Rivers, of A Battery, R.C.A.; Capt. J. B. Donaldson, secretary of the Dominion Artillery Association, was scorer at the firing points, and Mr. L. H. Irving, secretary of the Ontario Artillery Association, filled a like position at the targets. Lieut.-Col. Irwin, the Inspector of Artillery, visited the range frequently during the practice.

On Thursday afternoon, shortly after their return from the range, the Toronto Battery underwent their annual inspection before Col. Irwin. On Friday morning he inspected the Welland Canal Battery, and in the afternoon the Hamilton. All three showed creditable familiarity with the work expected of them.

#### INFORMAL INSPECTIONS.

Lieut.-General Middleton arrived in camp on Tuesday afternoon, the 19th inst., coming by boat from Toronto. That evening he lectured to the officers, gathered about the headquarters tents, on outpost duties. The next day the General spent in viewing the several corps at drill on their respective parade grounds, there being no special parade on his account, as he did not wish to disturb the work of the camp. On Wednesday afternoon General Middleton returned to Toronto, going thence next day to Stratford. His A. D. C., Capt. Wise, accompanies him on his tour.

The D. A. G.'s inspection took place on Friday, and each regiment being taken singly and thoroughly examined the whole of that day was occupied with the work. About four o'clock in the afternoon those regiments which had then had their inspection had a march out, these being the 12th, 34th, 36th, and 37th. Col. Davis, of the last named, was in command, being the senior officer. The parade was through the principal streets of the town, whose residents were outspoken in praise of the soldierly bearing and neat appearance of the troops.

The first corps to leave camp was the Toronto Field Battery, on Friday morning, and the Welland and Hamilton Batteries followed on the evening of that day. The artillery had come out a day ahead of the rest. On Saturday morning the foot soldiers struck their tents and departed at intervals throughout the day, last of all being C Company, who got away about six o'clock in the evening.

#### NOTES.

C Company's canteen appeared to be the most popular on the ground, and a mint of money has by its agency been added to the company fund.

While in Toronto *en route* to Niagara and Stratford, General Middleton was the guest of Col. Dawson of the Grenadiers, who accompanied him to Niagara.

The band of the 36th Battalion—Col. Tyrwhitt's—imitate the bagpipes to perfection, and on several occasions delighted the camp with a performance of this character.

The commandant, Col. Otter, set an excellent example of application to duty. He was seemingly never idle, and his staff also found their positions no sinecure.

The MILITIA GAZETTE takes this opportunity to thank Col. Otter and the members of his staff for courtesies extended to our representative during his stay at Niagara.

The duties of field officer of the day were fulfilled this year entirely by the majors, the lieut.-colonels commanding regiments being left free to look after their regular charges.

The only casualty of note was the drowning of Pte. Herbert Young, of No. 6 Co., of the 77th, who lost his life while bathing in the Niagara river shortly after the formation of the camp.

There were no less than twenty-two medical students serving in the camp. They held rank from that of captain down to private, about one-third of the number being hospital sergeants.

There were several cases of prostration by heat towards the end of last week. At the commencement of the camp the nights were exceedingly chilly, and the men suffered for want of blankets.

One regiment, the 37th, was out for the first time in three years. This corps is noted for the large number of officers and men on its strength who have served continuously since its organization in 1866.

The officers of the 11th United States Infantry, now garrisoning Fort Niagara, were frequent visitors at the brigade camp, and on Saturday evening, the 16th inst., they hospitably entertained in return a party of Canadian officers, at the cosy U. S. headquarters.

Five of the regiments in camp wore helmets procured at other than government expense, in most cases through appropriations from the county councils. The 37th wore grey havelocks, perhaps the most comfortable headdress in camp, though not at all æsthetic in appearance.

Lieut.-Col. Robert H. Davis, who has commanded the 37th Batt. since its organization in 1866, announces that this will be his last camp, as he intends to retire. He is an enthusiastic officer, and has never spared himself when exertion was needed to promote the interests of his corps.

The earliest risers in camp were the members of the bands detailed for each day's brigade duty. The work of the band commenced at "reveille," when they had to play up and down the entire length of the camp, involving a march of nearly a mile. At retreat they went through a like performance, after having had in the meanwhile a liberal allowance of work.

Forty "veterans" of the York and Simcoe battalion paraded together on Friday evening, and had a sup together in memory of old times. They visited Cols. O'Brien and Tyrwhitt, officers of the above named provisional corps, at their tents, and made the camp resound with their hearty cheers. The Northwest men nearly all wore sergeants' stripes.

On Tuesday last Col. Otter took seven hundred men, representing all corps except the artillery, to participate in the formal opening of the Ontario governmental pleasure resort, briefly known as the Queen Victoria Niagara Falls Park. The local committee had given a written pledge to provide decently for the troops while at the falls, but dishonestly ignored it, and the soldiers returned to camp in the evening half starved and wholly disgusted.

No. 3 Co. of the 37th Batt., was one of the curiosities of the camp, the ranks being filled wholly by Six Nation Indians, one officer as well being a member of the tribe. The brass band of the regiment is Indian, also, the bugle band being white. Both the company and band are creditably efficient, and the Indian soldiers are models of neatness and order. There have always been a number of Indians in the battalion, but this year for the first time they were gathered together in one company.

Four officers of the 12th Batt., Lieut.-Col. Wayling, Major Lloyd, Paymaster Stevenson, and Surgeon Hilary have served in it since 1867. Col. Wayling has had the command for two years. He is rapidly working the regiment up to a high state of efficiency. Four companies of the 12th are now virtually city companies, the suburbs from which they are drawn having been annexed to Toronto; there are eight companies in all.

A sparring match between two members of C Co., I.S.C., and two of the 77th Batt., furnished an hour's amusement one evening. The first set-to was between Pte. Murphy, of C Co., and Pte. Arthur Taylor, of the 77th. The next was between Pte. George, of C, and Pte. Wm. Taylor—brother of Arthur—of the 77th. The Taylors won both handily, and had the concluding bout to themselves. After four spirited three minute rounds, William, who is the elder, was declared winner, and awarded the purse subscribed for the sport. The Taylor brothers have considerable local renown as sparrers. They are well sciented, smart, and plucky.

## GOSSIP OF THE MILITIA.

### Resignation of Lt.-Col. Wolfenden, Commanding the B. C. Brigade G. A.

The Sixth District Camp Detail—A Good Send-off to a Wimbledon Man  
—The 62nd at Drill—What the Vics. are doing in their Handsome Quarters.

#### British Columbia.

Owing to his being unable to devote that time attention to the Brigade which it should receive from its commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. Wolfenden has requested permission to retire retaining rank. The retiring officer has had a long period of service, having joined the Royal Engineers in 1855, in which corps he served for eight years. In 1859 he went through a course at the School of Musketry at Hythe, and was afterwards employed as an instructor until he proceeded to British Columbia with the detachment under Col. Moody, R.E., in 1858. On the detachment of Royal Engineers being disbanded, Lieut.-Col. Wolfenden was instrumental in the formation of the New Westminster Rifle Volunteers in the early part of 1864, receiving a commission as Ensign and Adjutant. In this corps he served until his removal to Victoria in 1868, when he joined the Victoria Rifle Volunteers, in which he served until confederation.

On the enrolment of the active militia of B. C., Lieut.-Col. Wolfenden received a commission as 2nd Lieut. in No. 1 Co., Victoria Rifles; gained his Lieutenancy in 1874, and the Captaincy of the Company in 1878, which he held until the formation of the Provisional Regiment of Garrison Artillery in 1883, in which he was gazetted Captain and Adjutant, succeeding to the Majority on the retirement of Major Dupont in 1885, and to the Lieut.-Colonelcy and command on the formation of the Brigade in May, 1886.

Lieut.-Col. Wolfenden has always been an enthusiastic rifle shot, and was the first to represent his province on the Wimbledon team in 1874. He commanded the first British Columbia team which visited the Dominion Rifle Association meeting in 1886.

On retiring from the command of the B. C. G. A., Lieut.-Col. Wolfenden issued the following order: "Lieut.-Col. Wolfenden, in retiring from the active militia, feels that he would be wanting in his duty did he not in relinquishing command of the British Columbia Brigade of Garrison Artillery, place on record his high appreciation of the voluntary services of the officers, non-commissioned officers and men, and the readiness with which all orders have been carried out. He will ever take a deep interest in the welfare of the active militia of this province, and especially will he always have a kindly feeling for the B. C. G. A., which it has been his pride and pleasure to command for the past three years. In bidding good-by to his comrades in arms, he has much pleasure in handing over the Brigade to so able and popular an officer as Major Prior, under whose command there can be no doubt the Brigade will rapidly improve and become the pride of all classes of the community."

All the Victoria daily papers have articles highly eulogistic of Col. Wolfenden, and regretting his retirement.

#### The Sixth District Camp.

The troops in the 6th military district will go into camp on Tuesday, 26th inst. The staff will be:—Lt.-Col. Lamontagne, D.A.G., in command; Major H. Prevost, 65th Batt., Brigade Major; Major Baker, 64th Batt., Supply Officer; Surgeon A. M. Rivard, 83rd Batt., Principal M. O.; Captain Bossé, 65th Batt., Instructor of Musketry; Captain Gagnier, 76th Batt., Camp Quarter Master. The Battalions in camp will be the 80th Batt. of Infantry, Lt.-Col. De Foye; 83rd Batt. of Infantry, Lt.-Col. J. J. Sheppard; 84th Batt. of Infantry, Lt.-Col. Denis; 85th Batt. of Infantry, Lt.-Col. Brosseau; 86th Batt. of Infantry, Major Dufresne commanding. The 65th Batt. of Rifles, Lt.-Col. the Hon. J. A. Ouimet, will join the camp to go through the annual target practice, there being no range yet ready in Montreal. The General is to visit the camp on the 2nd of July.

#### St. John, N. B.

On the evening of the 16th the members of Captain Magee's Company, 62nd Fusiliers, gave a complimentary supper to Sergeant W. H. Adams, who goes on this year's Wimbledon team. The popular commander of the company was in the chair, with Lieut. Lordly as vice-chairman, and besides the guest of the evening, Lieut.-Col. Blaine,

Major Hartt, Adjutant, and the Sergt.-Major were the only guests. A very pleasant evening was spent, and many good wishes for the success of Sergt. Adams in particular and the team in general expressed.

Lt. Smith, of the St. John Rifle Co., Sergt. Miner of the 71st, and the above named member of the team left here on Friday evening, and were given a good "send off" by many friends.

The officers of the 62nd Fusiliers are again to appear on the boards in amateur theatricals, assisted by a few lady and gentlemen friends, and those who remember the successful rendition of "Ours," during Jubilee week last year, may look forward to equally successful performances. The play this year will be "Jessie Brown," or the relief of Lucknow, which will be put on with all the scenic effects about the first week in August. Rehearsals are now in progress.

The 62nd Fusiliers had their first battalion drill on Friday evening, under Lieut.-Col. Blaine; the attendance was satisfactory and the movements fairly steady, considering the fact that in each company there were a few recruits. The movements were confined principally to those which are affected by the recent changes in the drill. I have often thought when witnessing a parade in a drill shed that it is no easy matter for a C. O. to manœuvre his battalion in such a confined space; each movement must be done sharply, and one command rapidly follow another. A delay of a few paces will bring the whole force against a wall, or into such a position that a particular movement is impossible. Of course our drill shed is large—200 feet by 80—yet to successfully manœuvre six or seven companies but very little space is wasted. Though I suppose the new way of carrying the sword is now almost old, I have read many opinions adverse thereto; it seems tiresome on the arm when at the slope, and is generally stiff and uneasy, besides, when the men are much crowded they incur danger of losing an eye by the point of a sword over an officer's shoulder.

An old officer of the 62nd died here this week—Captain Frank B. Hazen—who for over ten years held a commission in the regiment. Young, active and zealous in the cause, he was much liked by all ranks, and several times served on the staff at camp, etc. The officers of the Fusiliers attended the funeral in full uniform, preceding the hearse. The deceased was only 36 years of age. GRENADE.

#### Montreal.

The Toronto trip, fixed for Saturday, the 30th inst., is absorbing the attention of the Victoria Rifles at present, and officers, non-coms. and men are working to make it a success. The regiment leaves on Saturday night, and the return train is timed to land us back on Tuesday morning by eight o'clock. It is the intention to make the trip an enjoyable one, and a large muster is assured. A friendly match between teams of the Vics. and Queen's Own had been arranged, but the closing of the garrison common ranges has knocked it on the head—thus fate is assisting the militia authorities in preventing anyone from this district getting in even one day's shooting.

As the Vics. have about decided to have a machine gun attached to the regiment, a notice on the bulletin board in the armory that Capt. Douglas, R.N., would give an exhibition of what his Nordenfeldt 3-barrel gun could do, brought brought up a large squad to see it working and hear the explanation of its mechanism and powers. The gun worked smoothly and rapidly, pumping out its blanks as fast as the green hands around could refill the boxes. Later on, under charge of Staff-Sergt. Birks (who seemed to take to it naturally), and timed by a stop watch, 430 shots were fired in 60 seconds.

The usual disappointment having attended the last effort of the officers endeavouring to get the rifle ranges started—the customary promises made on such occasions being no longer confided in—the different companies are making arrangements to have their annual matches fired with the Morris tubes in the armoury. No. 6 Co. held their prize meeting last week, and results were as follows: Ranges 200 and 500 yds., 5 shots each with handicap points from 3 to 15 on both ranges. Capt. Busted, Lieut. Shaw, and Privates Pope, Cooke and Reynolds as scratch men. 1st, Private Cooke; 2nd, Private Reynolds; 3rd, Lieut. Shaw. The same scores to count in a list for aggregate prizes, 5 shots at 600 yds. being added—won by Private Row with 76 points, including 15 points handicap. For green prizes—1st, Private Row; 2nd, Pte. Ussher; 3rd, Pte. McFarlane. BUSBY.

In the *American Magazine* for July, Wilfred Patterson will have an article descriptive of the Art Collection of Mr. William T. Walters, of Baltimore. This collection is one of the very finest of the modern French school, and the article will be profusely illustrated from photographs of the leading pictures, including Meissonier's celebrated "1814" and Alma Tadema's "Sappho."

**The Militia Pastime.**

**THE INTERPROVINCIAL RIFLE MATCH.**

The annual match between teams of eight from the three Maritime provinces was fired at the Bedford Range, Halifax, on the 14th, and resulted in a win for New Brunswick, that province having won two out of the three matches which have been held. The conditions were Martini rifles, Queen's ranges, military positions.

NEW BRUNSWICK TEAM.		NOVA SCOTIA TEAM.	
Corpl. J. Beaty, 62nd. . . . .	31 31 26 88	Lieut. Dover, 78th. . . . .	30 32 27 89
Lt. E. A. Smith, St. John Rifles. . . . .	29 31 27 87	Capt. Adams, H.G.A. . . . .	31 26 27 84
Capt. J. T. Hartt, St. John Rifles. . . . .	32 17 27 86	Lieut. Fiske, 63rd. . . . .	31 28 25 84
Lt. W. Langstroth, 8th Cav	33 27 25 85	Major Weston, 66th. . . . .	28 24 29 81
Staff-Sergt. D. M. Loggie, 73rd. . . . .	30 26 25 81	Sergt. Case, H.G.A. . . . .	31 25 23 79
Capt. Kinnear, 74th. . . . .	29 30 21 80	Lieut. Blair, 78th. . . . .	30 21 27 78
Col. Sergt. W. H. Adams, 62nd. . . . .	24 28 27 78	Gr. Fader, H.G.A. . . . .	29 27 21 77
Pte. T. C. Burns, 62nd. . . . .	27 23 26 76	Lieut. Dimock, 78th. . . . .	29 23 22 74
<b>Total. . . . .</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>Total. . . . .</b>	<b>646</b>

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND TEAM.**

Sap. H. Anderson, Eng. . . . .	30 30 28 88	Corpl. F. H. Heartz, Eng	28 19 26 73
Lt. D. L. Hooper, 82nd. . . . .	28 28 28 84	Capt. J. A. Longworth,	
Pte. S. Gray, 82nd. . . . .	29 26 13 78	P.E.I., Gar. Art. . . . .	30 26 17 73
Sap. R. V. Longworth, Engineers. . . . .	27 22 25 74	Sgt. J. M. Crocket, 82nd.	26 27 19 72
Capt. G. Crockett, 82nd. . . . .	26 30 18 70	<b>Total. . . . .</b>	<b>616</b>

Immediately on the conclusion of the match, after cheers were given for the New Brunswick eight, the teams returned to the hotel and sat down to a welcome dinner, provided by the Nova Scotia men. Lt.-Col. Curren, of the Halifax brigade of artillery, presided, having on either hand the captains of the visiting teams; Major Garrison, captain of the Nova Scotia eight, occupying the vice chair. In addition to the contesting riflemen, there were also present Lt.-Col. J. R. Murray, (who had acted as range officer); Major Egan, Major Walsh, 63rd Rifles; Capt. Chipman, 66th Fusiliers; Capt. Bishop, 63rd, and other riflemen from Halifax.

**OTTAWA.**

The seventh spoon competition was held on the 16th, the conditions being ten rounds at 400 and 500 yards; Snider rifle. The weather was fine, but a right rear wind gave the marksmen some trouble, as it generally does. The winner had not previously practised this year.

Capt. E. Waldo, (sr. class). . . . .	44 40 84	Capt. A. P. Sherwood. . . . .	41 29 70
N. Morrison. . . . .	43 40 83	Capt. C. F. Cox. . . . .	43 27 70
E. D. Sutherland. . . . .	42 39 81	Major W. P. Anderson. . . . .	33 31 64
Capt. J. Wright. . . . .	40 40 80	Lieut. J. H. Fairweather. . . . .	33 30 63
W. A. Jamieson. . . . .	40 40 86	E. Coste. . . . .	35 27 62
J. D. Holbrook. . . . .	36 40 76	R. P. King. . . . .	28 32 60
T. McJanet. . . . .	33 42 75	T. Carroll. . . . .	34 25 59
J. E. Hutcheson. . . . .	33 36 74	F. C. Lightfoot. . . . .	36 23 59
B. F. Wright. . . . .	43 31 74	R. Moodie. . . . .	33 24 57
Lieut. H. H. Gray. . . . .	35 37 72	H. McKay. . . . .	33 24 57
J. H. Ellis. . . . .	41 31 72	Major H. F. Perley. . . . .	33 24 57
T. C. Slade. . . . .	43 29 72	W. E. Cooke. . . . .	30 17 47
T. C. Boville (jr. class). . . . .	41 30 71	Lieut. S. M. Rogers. . . . .	20 21 41
N. McFarlane. . . . .	43 28 71	C. S. Scott. . . . .	20 20 40
F. W. Smith. . . . .	35 35 70		

To give additional interest to the afternoon's firing, Major Anderson and Captain Sherwood chose sides, each man contributing twenty-five cents to the pool, to go to the winners, which proved to be Major Anderson's team after a close contest up to the last man.

Capt. J. Wright. . . . .	80	N. Morrison. . . . .	83
W. A. Jamieson. . . . .	80	E. D. Sutherland. . . . .	81
Lieut. Grey. . . . .	72	T. McJanet. . . . .	75
F. W. Smith. . . . .	70	J. E. Hutchison. . . . .	74
Major W. P. Anderson. . . . .	64	Capt. Sherwood. . . . .	70
Lieut. J. H. Fairweather. . . . .	63	Capt. T. F. Fox. . . . .	70
E. Coste. . . . .	62	Major H. F. Perley. . . . .	57
R. P. King. . . . .	60	R. Moodie. . . . .	57
T. Carroll. . . . .	59	W. E. Cooke. . . . .	47
H. McKay. . . . .	57	Lt. S. M. Rogers. . . . .	40
<b>Total. . . . .</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>Total. . . . .</b>	<b>655</b>

On the 23rd the spoon competition was with Martinis, ten rounds at 500 and 600 yards. The weather at the beginning of the competition was favorable with a right rear wind, but a gale later in the afternoon spoilt many scores.

W. A. Jamieson, (dessert spoon). . . . .	47 34 81	J. H. Ellis. . . . .	40 28 68
N. McFarlane, (tea spoon). . . . .	36 39 75	W. E. Cooke, (jr. spoon). . . . .	32 34 66
F. W. Smith. . . . .	44 30 74	Capt. A. P. Sherwood. . . . .	35 31 66
T. McJanet. . . . .	39 34 73	Capt. C. F. Cox. . . . .	29 36 65
H. Pink. . . . .	39 33 72	Major H. F. Perley. . . . .	28 34 62
N. Morrison. . . . .	33 38 71	T. C. Boville. . . . .	36 25 61
Thos. Carroll. . . . .	38 33 71	J. P. Nutting. . . . .	39 22 61
E. D. Sutherland. . . . .	39 32 71	C. S. Scott. . . . .	33 27 60
Lt.-Col. J. P. Macpherson. . . . .	35 35 70	Lt. J. H. Fairweather. . . . .	42 15 57
Major W. P. Anderson. . . . .	37 33 70	R. Moodie. . . . .	23 28 51
Geo. H. Hutcheson. . . . .	35 33 68	H. McKay. . . . .	29 14 34
		R. N. Bishop. . . . .	16 22 38

Sides were again chosen by Major Anderson and Capt. Sherwood, and resulted in a hollow victory for the latter, his team being 70 points ahead.

The regular weekly practice of the Eighth Royal Rifles Association, took place as usual on Saturday afternoon, 16th inst., at the St. Joseph range, and notwithstanding a very troublesome fishtail wind the scoring was high, as the accompanying 12 top scores will show. Ranges 200, 500 and 600 yards, 7 rounds at each. Snider rifles and D. C. ammunition, issue of 1888.

Sergt. Goudie. . . . .	31 26 25 82	Staff-Sergt. Perrett. . . . .	27 16 25 68
Lt.-Col. Miller. . . . .	31 20 28 79	Pte. Hale. . . . .	26 23 19 68
Pte. Thompson. . . . .	30 27 21 78	L.-Corpl. Hawkins. . . . .	29 21 16 66
Sergt. Dewfall. . . . .	27 30 18 75	Pte. Murgatroyd. . . . .	22 24 18 64
Corpl. Champion. . . . .	25 24 24 73	Pte. Brown. . . . .	30 21 13 64
Pte. W. H. Davidson. . . . .	28 24 21 73	Pte. Bell. . . . .	28 27 9 64

**Militia General Orders (No. 12), of 15th June, 1888.**

(Continued from page 406.)

**No. 5.—CERTIFICATES GRANTED.**

Rank, Name and Corps.	Royal School.	Class.	Course.	Grade.	Percentage of marks obtained		
					Written.	Practical.	Aggregate Percentage.
Lieut. and Capt. J. C. G. Drolet, Company of Mounted Infantry. . . . .	M. Inf.	1	S.	A	74	70	72
2nd Lieut. R. Blackmore, 63rd Batt. . . . .	Inf.	1	Sp.	"	93	84	88
Lieut. W. J. A. Galbraith, 79th Batt. . . . .	"	2	S.	"	34	66	60
Lieut. A. Rochon, 81st Batt. . . . .	"	2	"	"	63	76	69
Lieut. J. L. Rankin, 5th Batt. . . . .	"	2	Sp.	"	75	62	68
Private A. Rochon, B. Co., I.S.C. . . . .	"	1	S.	B	84	79	82
Private R. Wall, B. Co., I.S.C. . . . .	"	1	"	"	75	70	73
Private R. L. Ryan, B. Co., I.S.C. . . . .	"	1	"	"	72	69	71
Corp. C. Bynghall, Gov. Gen. F. Gds. . . . .	"	1	"	"	83	70	78
Private A. Boehmer, Gov. Gen. F. Gds. . . . .	"	1	"	"	78	78	79
Private P. Dupuis, B. Co., I.S.C. . . . .	"	2	"	"	56	68	61
Private J. M. Paradis, B. Co., I.S.C. . . . .	"	2	"	"	57	65	61
Private R. Paré, B. Co., I.S.C. . . . .	"	2	"	"	49	62	54
Private E. Stroulger, Gov. Gen. F. Gds. . . . .	"	2	"	"	67	66	68
Corp. J. Enright, 8th Batt. . . . .	"	2	"	"	52	61	56
Private J. Howlan, 8th Batt. . . . .	"	2	"	"	66	46	58
Private D. Smythe, 43rd Batt. . . . .	"	2	"	"	57	65	61
Sergt. S. McKenny, 60th Batt. . . . .	"	2	"	"	41	63	50
Private J. Larivière, 65th Batt. . . . .	"	2	"	"	60	70	64

Lieut. William John Cecil Gadsby, 15th Batt., having passed his long course examinations, at the R. M. C. of Canada, on 16th Oct., 1885, has been granted, as a special case, a "First-class Long Course Infantry Certificate" from that date.

MEMO.—The certificate granted to Corp. J. Pringle, 71st Batt., is "Second Class," and not as described in General Order (11), 1st June, 1888. The percentage of marks obtained by Private C. H. Taylor, 67th Batt., should read: '69 '61 '65, and not as stated in same General Order.

**No. 6.—ASSOCIATIONS FOR DRILL IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.**

**St. Mary's College, P.Q. Drill Association.**—To act as Capt., Pierre Trudel, vice H. H. Smith.  
To act as Lieut., Jérémi Décarri, vice A. E. de Lorimier.  
To act as 2nd Lieut., E. O'Gara, vice W. A. Harty.

The brigade camp at Stratford, for No. 1 district, and at Gananoque for Nos. 3 and 4, both of which terminate on Saturday, have been favoured with exceptionally fine weather. General Middleton inspected Stratford camp last week, and this week visited Gananoque, in company with the Minister of Militia. According to the daily papers Col. Van Straubensee has been running a cold-water camp at Gananoque, and has spilled upon the ground all the liquor discovered within his jurisdiction. This should serve as a warning to the people of Stratford, as the usefulness of that town as a site for brigade camps will be gone whenever the D. A. G. of that district declares that water is to be the beverage of his command. The water at Stratford is anything but palatable, the consensus of military opinion being that it would take considerably more than twelve days' residence to acquire a taste for it.

### Firing at the Officer of the Day.

J. W. GOLDEN, late sergeant Troop D, 7th Cav., tells in the *Guardian* of the results of a command given to the 7th Cavalry by Capt. McDougall shortly after the broken fragments of the regiment were gathered into camp following the Custer massacre: "Sergeant, instruct your detail to challenge all objects approaching from the outside three times, and if they do not answer blaze away." He says:

Vivid flashes of lightning were playing throughout the heavens, lighting up the camp and surrounding country with a weird, unearthly light, then disappearing, leaving the darkness more intense than before. In our detail was a young Jew, a recruit known as Christian Thomas. His whole idea of soldiering was to do exactly as he was told, no more, no less. Shortly after midnight we saw him mounted and on post, and crawled back into our tent for another nap. How long we had slept we do not know. The first thing we heard was the shrill challenge of the little Jew:

"Halt! Who comes there."

Seemingly no answer, as we heard his carbine rattle at his belt and the quick snap of the breech lock, as he examined to make sure it was loaded. Again he challenged—no answer. By this time, carbines in hand, we were out of the tent and clustering around the now excited sentinel. In answer to our query as to what he saw he replied:

"Vell, how ter teiful can I dell. Ven de lightning flash I see me someding down in the bottom, und I shallenge, but he don't say something; then I shallenge again, und still he don't say nodings. Dunner vetter! Der it vas again. We der teifel comes der."

Sure enough a flash of lightning showed us a moving object in the sagebrush some distance below us. Quicker than a flash the Jew's gun was at his shoulder and he fired, followed an instant later by the two other sentinels. We paused a moment, and as the echo of the guns died out we thought we could distinguish a muffled shout in the direction we had seen the strange object. Shouting to Thomas to get the horses and hold them, we called on the other men to follow us, dropped on our knees and crept down the hill, pausing every few rods to repeat the challenge. Soon we received an answer, and to our challenge. "Who comes there," we received the reply, "Officer of the day, you infernal fools. Where are you?" A few minutes later we had advanced, dismounted, and recognized him. Sure enough it was the Captain, minus his hat, his clothing torn and muddy, and he at a white heat of rage and indignation. As we fell back to the post we learned that in making his usual visit to the pickets he had in some way missed his bearings and floundered around in the sagebrush and mud. It seems that owing to the high wind the challenge of the sentinel had not been heard, and the first intimation he had of our presence was the whizzing of the bullets over his head and the report of the carbines. We explained to him that the sentinel had only obeyed orders. This he reluctantly admitted, and contenting himself with an anathema on Indian warfare in general, he rode off to camp with a parting injunction that there was no need of saying anything about the affair, an injunction we kept for some months. Fortunately the high winds had so deadened the reports of the guns that they were not heard in camp, and no alarm was raised.

After the facts leaked out in garrison the following winter, Thomas was known as the "man who had tried to kill the officer of the day."

### Humours of the Services.

A young lady, desiring to increase her knowledge on naval affairs, asks why the weight of an anchor cannot be ascertained and kept recorded so as to avoid the necessity of weighing it every time the vessel leaves port. Bless you, my dear, the navy department is obliged to order the anchors to be weighed every time, to give the officers something to do and keep their eyes off the pretty girls who come to say good-bye to them.

#### THE INVENTOR OF TARGET PRACTICE.

Who was the first target crank? King Solomon. Why? "And King Solomon made two hundred targets of beaten gold; six hundred shekels of beaten gold went to one target." *II. Chronicles*, 9, 15.

A recruit at a Chatham depot was brought by the sergeant before the commanding officer, and the sergeant's complaint was: "Why, sir, this man comes in when he likes, he goes out when he likes, and he gets drunk when he likes; he might as well be an officer."

#### A GENIAL OLD SOLDIER.

The colonel of a German regiment, who was noted for his bad temper, recently celebrated his fiftieth birthday, on which occasion one of his officers, Captain Braunfels, sent his orderly to the colonel, congratulating him on the event and asking him to accept his (the captain's) photograph.

The old colonel took the photograph from the orderly, looked at it for some minutes with a cynical smile, and handing it back, said in a harsh tone of voice:

"Tell Captain Braunfels for me that I don't need his blankety blank photograph. When I want to see his mug I'll order him to report in person. Right about face, march."—*Texas Siftings*.

*The General*: "Lieutenant Fraser has volunteered to lead the expedition. Why, it is almost certain death! I thought he was only married about three months ago."

*The Colonel*: "He was, but his wife believes in the higher education of women, and—"

*The General*: "Oh, well, let him go then."—*Life*.

The ways of government officials are often peculiar, says the *New York Tribune*: A troop captain not long ago had occasion to send a requisition for ordnance stores, including, among other things, "sixty-five nose-bags." After the usual interval the requisition was duly returned with an indorsement, saying: "Captain ———, —th Cavalry: the returns of your troop show that we had only fifty-four men, and explanation is desired as to why he requires sixty-five nose-bags." The captain's explanation was: "The nose-bags are required for my horses, and not for the men."



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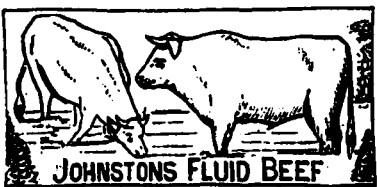
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