

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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

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## Topics of the Week.

Camp life this season appears to have been quite uneventful, but Moncton, where the New Brunswick militia assembled for their twelve days' drill, furnished an exception. The success of the governing party in Quebec province in securing a further lease of power at the general elections recently held, was celebrated at Montreal by a banquet given under the auspices of the French-Canadian "Club National" and the celebrants being mainly of French stock it naturally happened that in the speech-making the glories of that nationality received a very large share of attention. The reports telegraphed from Montreal exaggerated this fact, and also related fanciful incidents of disrespect shown to the Queen and British institutions generally. The daily papers bringing these wild reports to New Brunswick's loyal volunteers in camp, a mass meeting of officers appears to have been held under the auspices of the 8th Princess Louise Regiment of Cavalry—who bear upon their badges the coronet of Her Royal Highness and act upon the motto "*Regi patriaque fidelis*"—and, at the risk of offence against military dis-

cipline, a number of resolutions were passed. The mistaken premises upon which these were founded being cited, it was then unanimously resolved:—

"That we, the officers of the 8th P. L. N. B. Regiment of Cavalry in camp of exercise at Moncton, N. B., desire to express our disapproval of the conduct of the Club National and the so-called French Nationalists in Canada as disloyal and traitorous; further,

"That the French-speaking people in Canada owe the same respect and fealty to England's Queen and flag that is cheerfully paid by British subjects everywhere; further,

"That while firmly believing in the loyalty of French-Canadians the action of the Club National tends to shake faith in them as true and honourable citizens of this Dominion; further,

"That the time has arrived when Canadians should firmly set their faces against all disloyal demonstrations, that the world may know that Canada is a nation for Canadians who glory in their British connection, and who are ready to maintain that connection at all hazards."

These resolutions were moved by the Adjutant, Capt. Wedderburn, seconded by Surgeon March, and approved of by the commanding officer, Col. Domville, himself an ex-Member of Parliament and active politician, but who nevertheless took care to remind his officers that as such they should eschew all matters political. Col. Beer, of the 74th, is reported to have agreed with Col. Domville. The resolutions were then carried unanimously, "Rule Britannia and God Save the Queen being sung with tremendous enthusiasm," and "the men of the various corps in camp crowding about the mess tent in which the meeting was held and cheering lustily." It is also reported that "bands of men marched through the encampment singing patriotic songs until long after midnight." Probably the report from the camp is quite as highly coloured as that from Montreal which gave rise to the demonstration, but the resolutions may be accepted as evidence of the New Brunswickers' sentiments.

As if to fan the flame of indignation displayed as shown above, there comes this week, from Old France, a report of a deep laid scheme to foster the love of a rival amongst Great Britain's loyal French Canadian subjects. It is contained in a letter from Paris to the *Volunteer Record*, published at London, and thus proceeds:

"An excursion trip from France to Canada is being planned for August next, under the patronage of the French Alpine Club. The round of journey will last five weeks, and include visits to New York in the first place, and from thence to the Niagara Falls, the St. Lawrence Rapids, Montreal and Quebec. There is more in this presumed pleasure trip than meets a first consideration, for under guise of another expedition of the French Alpine Club (an association which exists more by name than deed), the so-called Trans-Atlantic jaunt has been encouraged under the auspices of the wealthy French-Canadian Society of Paris, to preserve the influence of the mother country amongst the restless Gallic elements in the southern populations of the Dominion."

If there is one man in Canada who more than another is responsible for such extravagant language as that attributed to the Club National banquetters, it is the Hon. Honore Mercier, Premier of Quebec, the man whose electoral victory was celebrated on the occasion in question. But while helping by such wild talk to secure himself in power, Premier Mercier has not neglected to show signal encouragement to some essentially loyal institutions, amongst others the militia force; and at the very time when the Eighth Cavalrymen were by implication so vigorously denouncing him, the Artillerymen throughout the Dominion were being made acquainted with the happy form taken

by the gift which Mr. Mercier generously offered on the occasion of his visit to the Garrison Artillery camp at the Isle of New Orleans last September. This consists of a handsome piece of plate upon which appear the figures, in brass, of a British sailor and soldier, the whole forming a trophy well worth competing for. It has been decided to offer it as a prize for the highest aggregate in the 64-pounder and 40-pounder competitions combined at the Orleans, competition this year.

It is understood that for the annual tournaments the Dominion Artillery Association will choose the two weeks following the prize meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association. The Garrison meet, at the Island of Orleans, Quebec, will probably open on the 8th September; and the Field Artillery meeting, at Kingston, on the 16th September. The rules for practice at these have recently been issued by the Inspector of Artillery. The prize lists were referred to last week.

Mr. J. H. Steward, the well-known optician of London, England, has added another to his series of generous gifts to the Dominion Rifle Association, intimation coming this week that a valuable Graphoscope (£6 15s.) had been despatched by him for competition at this year's meeting. It has been decided to put this prize in the place occupied by Mr. Steward's handsome gift of last year, at the head of the Snider Aggregate list. This has now been lengthened to fifty prizes, consisting of \$250 cash and the graphoscope. By the way, the increase in the Snider Aggregate prize list this year is not so generous on the part of the Association as at first supposed. Last year the Aggregate was inaugurated with twenty-seven cash prizes amounting to \$150, and entrance was free. Now \$100 has been added, but an entrance fee of fifty cents is to be charged, so that the match will be almost self-supporting.

A cable message from Col. Prior, received on Monday, announced the safe arrival of the Bisley team in England, after a voyage of more than usual length. Again this year the team will have the privilege of a week's practice upon the range of the Cambridge Volunteers. Though the competitions will not commence until Monday next, there is to be an interesting preliminary gathering on Saturday, when with fitting ceremonial, the Princess of Wales will fire the first shot of the N.R.A. meetings at Bisley, as the Queen did at Wimbledon thirty-one years ago.

### The Rifle.

In the Guards' weekly spoon competition (Martini, Queen's ranges) at Rideau range last Saturday, Col. Sergt. Mailleue won the spoon with a total of 84 points. Lieut. Winter, who did not compete for the spoon, and fired with a Snider rifle, made 85 points.

We received this week the programme of the Manitoba Rifle Association annual prize meeting, to be held at Stoney Mountain range, commencing on Tuesday, 22nd July. It is well varied, and consists of no less than seventeen competitions, including four extra series, one pool and one revolver match. The prize list makes liberal provision for nursery shots, and for the encouragement of team shooting.

In connection with the annual prize meeting of the Metropolitan Rifle Association, there will be on Saturday afternoon, 23rd August, an all-comers match with \$150 offered in three team and thirty-six individual prizes. The match will be with Snider rifles, seven shots at 200, 500 and 600 yards, D.R.A. rules for 1890 to govern. There will also be extra series matches, at 500 and 600 yards, open to all comers, with a long string of cash prizes in each. The Montreal riflemen have been invited to send representatives. This will be the last shooting on Rideau range prior to the D.R.A. meeting.

The Ottawa Rifle Club's regular spoon competition came off on Rideau range last Saturday afternoon, with Martinis at 200, 500 and 600 yards. A member of the second class, T. McJanet, headed the list with 91, taking a dessert spoon, and this being his third win in that class he now joins the 1st. The scores next in order were as follows, the tie in the first class being shot off and won by the first named:—Lieut. E. D. Sutherland, dessert spoon, 1st class, 84; G. A. Mailleue, tea spoon, 1st class, 84; J. H. Ellis, 83; H. Watters, tea spoon, 3rd class, 82; Dr. G. Hutchison, 81; J. A. Armstrong, 81; W. G. Dial, 81.

### The Military Rifle League.

Being, like A Battery, prevented by repairs to the range from firing the third League competition on the 14th June, the team of the 14th P. W. O. Rifles also fired, by permission, on the 28th inst., when they scored as follows; Lieut. White 70, Col.-Sergt. Ross 69, Pte. A. Hora 66, Pte. C. Hora 63, Pte. Martin 55, Pte. Gillespie 47, Pte. Simons 43, Pte. Connor 33, Pte. White 29, Pte. Criggan 10; totals 179, 178, 128—485.

The Montreal teams, with the exception of the 6th Fusiliers, on the 28th June fired the League match (the fourth) originally set down for that day, but officially postponed to the 2nd of August. They claimed that in consequence of other fixtures the later date would not suit them, and fired on the strength of permission given by local representatives of the League, though it is said the President had refused his sanction. It now remains to be decided whether the scores are to be allowed. They are as follows: Victoria Rifles, first team 760, second team 499; 5th Royal Scots, first team 695, second team 508; Garrison Artillery, 690; Prince of Wales Rifles, first team 492; 65th Battalion, 342.

At this long pause in the operations of the League, with three of the seven matches fired, it is interesting to sum up the scores and see who are leading in the race for the team and individual prizes. To take the teams first, and assuming that there will be as promised a trophy for every five of the fifty-two entries, this would be the prize list were the positions unchanged between now and the finish:—

1. 54th Battalion.....	2436	6. 63rd Battalion.....	2190
2. Halifax Garrison Art.....	2371	7. 21st Battalion.....	2182
3. 13th Battalion.....	2212	8. B Battery, R.C.A.....	2162
4. 53rd Battalion.....	2202	9. 12th Battalion.....	2146
5. 45th Battalion.....	2192	10. 10th Royal Grenadiers.....	2146

Ten "trophy" badges for the individual competitors will be awarded to the team winning the first trophy.

### THE LOCAL CHAMPIONS.

The competitor making the highest aggregate on each team will receive a team championship badge, and for this honour the standing is now as follows:—

A Battery, R.C.A., Gr. Roothame..	187	12th Bn., Stf-Sgt. A. Bell.....	238
B Battery, R.C.A., Gr. T. Pugh....	255	13th Bn., { Capt. E. G. Zealand*....	233
B Company, I.S.C., Lc-Corp. Ryan.	146	{ Col-Sgt. E. Skedden....	229
C Company, I.S.C., Pte. J. Reid..	206	14th Bn., { Lieut. W. Hora*.....	144
G.G.F.G., Tpr. Kennedy.....	172	{ Lieut. J. A. B. White....	120
H.G.A. 1st team { Capt. E. D. Adams	247	21st Bn., Pte. S. B. Green.....	251
{ Sgt. Maj. S. Case.	247	35th Bn., Barrie team, Sgt. Sproule.	101
H.G.A., 2nd team, Bty. Sgt.-Maj.		35th Bn., Orilliateam, Pte. Wm. Paine	198
Melvin.....	226	37th Bn., Pte. F. Smetzer.....	211
Montreal Gar. Art., Sgt. J. J. Bell.	202	38th Bn., Capt. C. M. Nelles.....	196
P.E.I.G.A. { Capt. J. A. Longworth*	217	43rd Bn., 1st team, Lt. E. D. Suther-	
{ Capt. H. M. Davison..	208	land.....	238
Ch'town Eng's, Capt. W. A. Weeks..	237	43rd Bn., 2nd team, Pte. T. McJanet	
{ Capt. H. H. Gray*.....	226	44th Bn., Capt. G. W. McMicking..	226
G.G.F.G., 1st team { Corp. T. Carroll	223	45th Bn., Bowmanville team, Capt.	
{ Sgt. W. Short..	223	W. S. Russell.....	250
G.G.F.G. 2nd team, Pte. T. F. Elmitt	159	45th Bn., Lindsay team, Lt. J. A.	
1st P.W.R. 1st team, Sgt.-Maj. A.		Williamson.....	250
Ferguson.....	163	49th Bn., Pte. Mussen.....	140
1st P. W. R., 2nd team, Pte. Lam-		53rd Bn., Lt. R. J. Spearing.....	246
oureux.....	41	54th Bn., Lt. M. H. Healy.....	264
Q. O. R., 1st team, Stf-Sgt. Harp....	226	57th Bn., Capt. R. M. Dennistoun..	231
Q. O. R., 2nd team, Stf-Sgt. Don-		{ Col.-Sgt. M. B. Hender-	
nelly.....	232	{ son.....	226
Vic. Rifles, 1st team, Pte. Miller..	214	{ Lieut. S. B. Lordly... ..	225
Vic. Rifles, 2nd team, Sgt. P. Gorman	167	63rd Bn., Capt. J. G. Corbin.....	232
5th R. Scots, 1st team, Pte. J. Kambery	209	65th Bn., { Capt. Beauchamp.....	106
5th R. Scots, 2nd team, Sgt. D. O'Brien	191	{ Sgt.-Maj. Gauthier.....	106
6th Fus., 1st team, Sgt. H. Todd..	211	82nd Bn., Capt. D. L. Hooper....	246
6th Fus., 2nd team, Pte. F. Green..	185	90th Bn., Stf-Sgt. C. N. Mitchell..	229
8th Royal Rifles, Stf-Sgt. Perrett..	227	96th Bn. (Scores not all in)	
9th Bn., Col.-Sgt. E. Gosselin.....	185	F. Div., N. W. M. P., Const. A. R.	
10th R.G., 1st team, Stf-Sgt. T.		Carmichael.....	213
Mitchell.....	255	Regina Rifle Assn., R. Sweet.....	203
10th R. G., 2nd team, Pte. Cochrane	206	Sask. Rifle Assn., D. Williamson..	234

Those marked (\*) have sailed with the Bisley team, so that their posts of honour here go to the next in order.

### THE LEAGUE CHAMPIONS.

A "League Championship" badge is offered to the highest individual aggregate scorer in the seven matches. To date this is how the leaders in this contest stand:—

Lieut. M. H. Healy, 54th Bn.....	264	Capt. D. L. Hooper, 82nd Bn.....	246
Stf-Sgt. Cleveland, 54th Bn.....	262	Lieut. Spearing, 53rd Bn.....	246
Major Thomas, 54th Bn.....	259	Bandsman Whalen, 54th Bn.....	243
Stf-Sgt. T. Mitchell, 10th Bn.....	255	Pte. McKenzie, 21st Bn.....	242
Gr. T. Pugh, B Battery.....	255	Stf-Sgt. Mitchel, 45th Bn.....	241
Pte. S. B. Green, 21st Bn.....	251	Stf-Sgt. Clark, 53rd Bn.....	241
Capt. W. S. Russell, 45th Bn.....	250	Pte. E. Swallow, 54th Bn.....	241
Lieut. Williamson, 45th Bn.....	250	Capt. Maxwell, H.G.A.....	241
Sgt. J. C. Dixon, 21st Bn.....	247	Major Bernard, 54th Bn.....	240
Capt. Adams, H.G.A.....	247	Bandsman Witty, 54th Bn.....	240
Sgt. Major Case, H.G.A.....	247		

## NURSERY AGGREGATE.

Mr. A. G. Ronan will present one of his patent orthoptics to each of the ten Nurserymen scoring highest in the seven matches. The ten highest now are:—

Pte. S. B. Green, 21st Bn.....	251	Corp. E. Swallow, 54th Bn.....	241
Lieut. Williamson, 45th (Lindsay)..	250	Bandsman Witty, 54th Bn.....	240
Sgt. J. C. Dixon, 21st Bn.....	247	Pte. L. W. Swallow, 54th Bn.....	237
Bandsman Whalen, 54th Bn.....	243	Lieut. A. Elliott, 12th Bn.....	236
Pte. McKenzie, 21st Bn.....	242	Dr. Williamson, Sask. R. A.....	234

## SINGLE SCORE PRIZES.

Mr. Jas. Foster, optician, of Toronto, offers a field glass for the highest score made in any one competition. For this Lieut. M. H. Healy, 54th Bn., and Capt. W. S. Russell, 45th Bn. (Bowmanville), head the list with 94 each. Mr. Thos. Mitchell offers a pair of shooting boots for the highest score made by a nursery man at any competition, and for this Sgt. D. McMillan, 82nd, and Lieut. Williamson, 45th (Lindsay), head the list with 91 points each.

The proprietor of the MILITIA GAZETTE offers a Snider rifle for the highest aggregate in any three of the seven League matches made by a paid-up subscriber to this paper. The best three scores put together so far stand to the credit of Lieut. M. H. Healy, of the 54th (87, 83, 94—264), who, like a sensible man, takes the MILITIA GAZETTE and does not allow his subscription to run in arrears.

The dates for the remaining four competitions of the League are the 12th and 26th July and the 2nd and 9th August. The first annual meeting will take place at Ottawa during the week of the D.R.A. competitions, and the prizes won this season will then be distributed.

## Correspondence.

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

## A CHALLENGE WANTED.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—I read with some interest the recent letter in your paper in which the Thirteenth Battalion were invited to challenge the Twenty-first to a team competition. It seems to me that the challenge ought to come from the other side, the Thirteenth having an established record at home and abroad and the Twenty-first none, except in their own locality. I would suggest that the Essex Centre marksmen bring a team to the Provincial matches here next month, when they would have an opportunity to try conclusions with their friends from Hamilton.

TORONTO.

## THE ESSEX RIFLEMEN.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE.—That the League is causing a wonderful influence in rifle shooting throughout the Dominion there can be but little doubt, and I must say I was much pleased with the remarks of "A Friend of the League," in your last issue. He certainly gave the chronic faultfinders a just rebuke, and as for those poor unfortunates who insinuate dishonourable tactics, they are hardly worth mentioning. As I happen to be well acquainted with, and an old member of, the Essex Centre Rifle Club, I feel bound to defend them from such attacks as our friend "G." "Hamilton," thought to make on them. I cannot understand why he did not direct his time and abilities against the 54th, whose two scores in succession were certainly more remarkable than that of the 21st.

Through the efforts of an old member of the 7th, a rifle club was established in Essex Centre about six years ago, composed of the best men of that town, who purchased Turner rifles and practised every week, and I have frequently seen them make an average of 80. The last time I had the pleasure of seeing them at their butts they made an average of 79. Although Mr. "G." may never have heard of them (I fancy there are other things he has not heard of), they are well known in the west, having won every match they ever shot, and at last were unable to get a team to shoot against them. They then joined the 21st in order that they would be able to shoot at Toronto and Ottawa. Last year I noticed that their representative at Toronto stood seventh in the grand aggregate.

The C. M. R. L. is doing the work intended in allowing teams of this kind to test their strength, and I think many good shots will be found in Canada who have never attended either the Toronto or Ottawa matches. Our friend "G." must have been still more surprised when he found that ten men could make 830. And I hope that that score will be surpassed before the shooting is over. Wishing the League and its promoters every success,

Welland, 30th June, 1890.

S.

## Regimental and Other News.

A drill competition of the companies of the 57th Battalion, Peterborough, recently concluded, has resulted as follows: No. 1, 73; No. 2, 66; No. 3, 61; No. 4, 58; No. 5, 54; No. 6, 58.

This is from the *Stratford Times*: "The London Field Battery, under the command of Col. Peters, is one of the best disciplined batteries in the province, and the Colonel himself one of the best drilled men in the Dominion. The battery gave a good account of themselves while here, not a complaint being made against any one of the men."

The camp of the fifth military district, held at Compton, terminated on the 5th inst. It was one of the most successful in the history of the district, Lt.-Col. Houghton and all the officers agreeing in this opinion. The ground has proved a splendid one, hardly a drill was lost, the supplies were good, and the rifle practice is reported as being above the average. The men made a vast improvement in drill, the crudity they displayed at the opening of the camp having entirely disappeared, and as they left the field they formed a very creditable body of militia.

A Toronto correspondent writes: "How is it that you have had nothing about the funniest incident of the brigade camp at Niagara? Here it is: For the sham fight the officers of the 36th Battalion were given the assistance of an expert in the person of a permanent corps officer, who lucklessly led his forces into such a position that they were surrounded by the enemy, under command of Major Lloyd of the 12th Battalion. The incident, I am told, was witnessed and commented upon by the party of Toronto notables, including Mayor Clarke, visiting the camp on that occasion, and they were not a little amused at the manner in which the 'amateur' officer out-generalled the 'professional.'"

The band of the 43rd Rifles, Ottawa, has been disbanded. This step is, it is said, but a preliminary to organization upon a new and improved footing, the regiment being happy in the recent acquirement of a thoroughly efficient bandmaster. That the reorganization is not to be proceeded with immediately is perhaps due to a mishap which the people of Ottawa allowed to occur on Dominion Day, for which occasion, through the enterprise of the officers of the 43rd, Liberati's famous military band had been secured for the entertainment of the citizens of and visitors to the Capital, where Liberati himself once lived and led a military band. The three concerts given, on the 30th June and 1st July, were in aid of the 43rd Band fund; they resulted in a deficit of about \$700, which was made good by the officers.

Sir Frederick Middleton has written a farewell letter to the officers and cadets of the Royal Military College, and expressing satisfaction with the institution, owing mostly to the care with which the officers of the college are selected, the exceptionally good service rendered by them, and the excellence of the material of the young men of Canada that they have to work on. The Commandant, in reply, in the absence of the cadets, "felt that he could truly say for them that they have ever looked to you as one who has always had their best interests at heart, and whose sympathy and kindness were unfailing resources. They will reciprocate your warm feeling toward them, and in after years think of you with gratitude for your successful efforts to restore peace at a painfully critical time in their country's history. Those connected with the college wish that the future may be all that kind recollection can hope for you."

Were the militia everywhere so handsomely treated as are those of Orillia, the ranks would certainly be filled to overflowing. On the occasion of the return of No. 7 Company of the 35th Battalion from the district camp, the townspeople gave them a very enthusiastic welcome, the civic officials, the clergy and the ladies uniting to carry out the happy affair, which was very properly inaugurated by a substantial meal for the hungry volunteers. After luncheon Mayor Slaven officially welcomed the company home, and spoke of the pride he felt in them and in the regiment of which they formed part. Rev. Canon Greene followed, being equally complimentary in his remarks. Major Burnet made a happy reply. The volunteers gave cheers for the Queen, Mayor Slaven, Major Burnet, Capt. Drinkwater, and the ladies, and marched to their armoury. Before dismissing the company, Capt. Drinkwater expressed great satisfaction with the conduct of the men, and said the credit so generously accorded to "No. 7" was very largely due to the non-commissioned officers, who had fitted themselves for their duties by attending military school.

## The Niagara Camp.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—The camp at Niagara deserves a more careful and critical notice than it has received either in your columns or in those of the daily papers, whose reporters are better suited to gratify the curiosity of a careless public than to give a fair impression of the character and efficiency of the body of men who assembled on the 17th inst. This force, consisting of five batteries of artillery and six regi-

ments of infantry from the counties of York, Simcoe, Peel, Ontario, Wentworth and Haldimand, may be held to fairly represent the active militia of the 2nd Military District, the largest and most important in the Dominion.

And first, as to the elements of which this force is composed, it is essentially national and representative. Its officers include men of every class, nationality and calling. Several members of the House of Commons are found among them, all regularly trained for the positions they hold; one distinguished member of the Provincial Legislature is at the head of the medical staff, and in various ranks are men from the different counties who occupy leading positions in social life, in political affairs, and in the different branches of trade, commerce and agriculture. Mingled with them are young farmers, students and mechanics, whose love for a military life has induced them to make the sacrifices of time and money necessary to qualify them to hold their commissions. All of them, by virtue of their commissions, stand upon that footing of perfect equality, tempered by the necessary subordination of rank, which is a characteristic feature of Her Majesty's forces. Of the body of officers thus constituted the great majority are regularly qualified for their respective ranks, and can be depended upon to take a force of recruits in hand, and, without any assistance from outside, prepare them for the duties of the field. Nor are the non-com. officers in their relative rank in any way inferior. Many of them have been taught in the military schools, others have been trained by long service in the force, and all are remarkable for good conduct, steadiness and general efficiency. Nor are the rank and file the mob of raw recruits brought casually together to fill up the ranks for the time being, of which the rural battalions are often supposed to consist. In a force brought together only once in two years, and having but few opportunities of drill in the meantime, there must necessarily be a large proportion of recruits and undrilled men. There are, however, in every company, a number of men who, from pure love of soldiering, stick to it from year to year, who are thoroughly drilled, who are up to all the duties of the camp and the field, and who leaven the whole regiment, and enable it to enter at once upon its work in a manner that is a surprise to all beholders.

Thus, with its trained officers and non-com. officers, and with this nucleus of drilled and disciplined men, a rural corps assembles at its headquarters, is moved to camp, pitches its tents, lights its fires, mounts its guards, and takes up all the routine of duty with readiness and regularity, and, what is more surprising, these men, to most of whom any species of restraint is new, obey orders and submit to rules of discipline, not only without a murmur but with the instinctive feeling that it is proper and soldierlike to do so. These men are largely farmers, farmers' sons and mechanics who make a pecuniary sacrifice in attending drill—labourers, also, who leave good wages for the half dollar a day and rations that a grateful country affords them—and, it must be said, a proportion of idlers, who nevertheless do not always make the worst soldiers. A regiment so composed is, I say, national and representative. It is also serviceable and in a surprisingly short time becomes smart and soldierlike. Its physique is good, its discipline is good, and it may be relied upon for any service the country requires.

Such, I say, was the force that assembled at Niagara under Col. Otter on the 17th of this month. Of course, in such a force, a great deal may be found to laugh at. There is plenty of room for criticism. Sentries may be ignorant and do absurd things, belts and accoutrements may at first be worn in a slovenly fashion, coats may be badly folded, and, in short, no end of faults may be found; but where can be seen such a smart, efficient and soldierlike body of men, all things considered, as those who left camp after such a ridiculously short period of drill as twelve days! The Canadian is apt at warlike exercises. He adopts them readily and learns them quickly. Properly handled, he is docile and obedient; when he thinks respect and obedience is due, he yields it cheerfully. But he is quick to notice any error on the part of his officers. He will not long tolerate incompetence or laziness; when he finds those qualities he will be first sullen, then probably mutinous. His officers must be his pattern. They must set him an example of self-denial, endurance and hardihood. They must fully accept the motto "*Noblesse oblige*," and be ready to lead, and to share, as well as able to command. With such elements properly combined a force may be defeated but never be subdued, and the destinies of the country may safely be left in its hands.

The course of instruction at the camp was as comprehensive and thorough as the circumstances would admit. Squad drill (omitting the physical exercises) and manual and firing exercises occupied most of the time. Next came the application of squad to battalion drill in such simple movements as are necessary for the movement of a battalion in brigade. And last, but not least, practice of the new mode of attack, to which the men took very readily.

A field day occupying one afternoon, in which a march past and

sham fight between the two brigades gave an opportunity of showing how far the force had benefited by its ten days of actual drill, closed this course.

In a course where all, from the the highest to the lowest, did their best to excel, comparisons would indeed be odious, and I shall not attempt them. I have said but little of the artillery, not being familiar with that branch of the force, but I believe the officer under whose charge they were—and there can be no more competent authority—was well satisfied with the results attained. The march past of the infantry battalions was uniformly good, and I do not think better could have been done by any part of the force, the most highly trained city regiments not excepted. It might have been remarked, that the new front formations seem inevitably to resolve themselves into a wheel of the old-fashioned kind.

The sham fight between the two brigades showed an intelligent appreciation of the methods of attack, but, under the exigencies of their application, involving as occurred in this case, a change of front on the part of the attacking force, and a rapid movement from left to right in consequence of the defending force having first got possession of the ramparts of Fort George, it is evident that a close adherence to technical rules is impossible.

It is needless to say that under the officer who commands the Second Military District the rules of discipline were strict and strictly carried out, and it is the highest compliment that can be paid to all concerned, both officers and men, that they were carried out, and that the cases of their violation were remarkably few.

June 28th, 1890.

MILES.

### The Toronto Summer Carnival

TORONTO, 29th June.—To the Militia falls the honour of having taken the leading part in inaugurating the greatest Summer Carnival ever projected in Canada. On Sunday morning the Governor-General's Body Guard (now in camp on the Garrison Commons) marched to St. James' Cathedral where services were conducted by Canon Dumoulin, and in the afternoon the Queen's Own and the Dufferin Rifles of Brantford held a combined parade to the New Richmond Church where the most practical sermon ever preached to either of the corps was delivered by Rev. J. E. Lancel, who took his text from II. Corinthians, iv., 12. The band of the Queen's Own stationed in the gallery rendered a selection with grand effect during the offertory. Take it on the whole, despite the intense heat, the service was most hearty, the pastor with kind regard to the high temperature limiting the service, so that no one had a chance to catch even a wink of sleep. I might also state that too much praise cannot be given to the churchwardens for their unceasing efforts to overcome all obstacles in the way of the comfort of the men and the members of the Queen's Own look with pleasure to a return visit to the New Richmond. Two well known friends of the regiment occupied seats on the platform, Rev. Manly Benson and Mr. Warring Kennedy. The Queen's Own led the visiting corps down to the foot of York street where they took the boat *en route* to the Exhibition grounds where they are now quartered.

The morning of the 1st July was ushered in by a very heavy rain-storm and it looked as if "Old Probs" was going to vent his spleen upon our brave defenders. Shortly before 11 a.m. the square round the drill shed presented a busy scene as the different regiments took up their respective positions, and at 11.30 the Governor-General's Body Guard swung off along Front street. The Guards' strength was 178 men and they presented a very fine appearance, giving evidence that the few days spent in camp had proved of immense advantage. These officers were in command:—Lieut.-Colonels G. T. Denison and F. C. Denison, M.P., Major Denison, Captains Denison and Bolton, Lieutenants Fleming, Elliott and Dixon, Surgeon Grasett, Quartermaster Sloan, Assistant Surgeon Campbell.

The Field Battery, under command of Major Mead, followed, the other officers being Capt. Beatty, Lieut. Irwin, Q.-M. Sgt. Sprey, Sgt.-Maj. Woodman.

Next came the 15th Battalion Argyle Infantry, under command of Lieut.-Col. Lazier, 350 strong. Their other officers were Majors Henderson and Lazier, Capt. and Adj. Lazier, Surgeon Aikins, Asst. Surgeon Elliott, Capt. Biggar, paymaster; Capt. Pope, quartermaster; Chaplain Rev. M. M. McLean. The regiment was headed by the two bands, brass band numbering 30 and bugle band 11.

The 57th Battalion of Peterboro next swung into view, 275 strong, under Lieut.-Col. Rogers, the new uniforms showing to good advantage. The following were the officers: Capt. Mason, Langford, Hill, Denistoun, Miller, Brennan.

Bringing up the rear of the 1st Brigade came the Royal Grenadiers, under Lieut.-Col. Dawson, headed by both brass and bugle bands. The following officers were in command of the eight companies: A, Capt.

Hay and McLean; B, Capt. Howard; C, Capt. Caston and Lieut. Gibson; D, Lieuts. Lowe and McLennan; E, Capt. Greville Harston; F, Capt. Elliott and Lieut. Heward; G, Capt. Michie; H, Capt. Trotter; Adjutant Capt. F. F. Manley. The Grens made a most creditable muster, being about the largest parade they ever had, and numerous were the encomiums passed by the spectators on the appearance of this regiment.

The 2nd Brigade was headed by the Princess of Wales' Own Rifles (Kingston). Their total strength was 206 men, besides brass band 32, Bugle band 16. The marching of the men was quite up to the standard, and they were enthusiastically cheered along the line of march. The staff and company officers were: Lt.-Col. R. H. Smith, Maj. Powers, Acting Maj. Hinds, Maj. and Adj. Galloway, Maj. Spriggs, quartermaster; Sgt.-Maj. R. D. Baker. No. 1 Co., Capt. Skinner and Lieut. Dupuis; No. 2 Co., Lieuts. McKelvey and Marshall; No. 3 Co., Lieut. Joyner; No. 4 Co., Lieut. Fraser; No. 5 Co., Capt. L. Shannon; No. 6 Co., Lieut. White.

Close on these came the 38th Dufferin Rifles (Brantford), under command of Lieut.-Col. Jones, and officered as follows: A, Capt. Jos. Stratford and Lieut. Kilmaster; B, Capt. J. H. McLean and Lieut. Ruddy; C, Capt. H. F. Leonard and Lieuts. Park and Howard; D, Capt. McGlashan and Lieuts. Curtis and Robertson; E, Capt. W. D. Jones and Lieuts. Otter and Fowler; F, Capt. C. M. Neil and Lieuts. Jenkins and King. The brass and bugle bands were each 20 strong, and ambulance 15. Staff—Majors Rothwell and T. H. Jones, Capt. and Adjutant Wilkes, Capt. J. S. Hamilton, paymaster; Capt. R. R. Harris, quartermaster; Dr. Harris, surgeon; Asst. Surgeon, Dr. Minchin, Sgt.-Major Barber.

Cheer after cheer along the whole line of march greeted the appearance of Canada's crack rifle regiment, as with heads erect and manly bosoms swelling with martial pride, the Queen's Own Rifles followed on. Every man was on his mettle, and fully upheld their reputation as the best citizen soldiers on the continent. Lieut.-Col. Hamilton was in command. The following are the names of the staff and company officers: Majors Delamere and Sankey; Capt. and Adjutant Macdonald; Qr.-Master, Capt. Hicks; Surgeon, Dr. Nattress; A, Capt. Thompson and Lieut. Badgerow; B, Capt. Pellatt and Lieut. Llwyd; C, Capt. Green and Lieut. Rennie; D, Capt. Mason; E, Lieuts. Knifton and Matthewson; F, Lieut. Lee; G, Capt. Bennett; H, Capt. Gunther and Lieut. Morgan; J, Capt. Murray and Lieut. Crean. The regiment paraded 495 strong, besides brass band of 38 and bugle band of 31. The comparative smallness of the parade is accounted for by the fact of K Company not yet being able to turn out, and a number of the regiment being out of town on holidays.

The Army and Navy Veterans, headed by their fine band, brought up the rear, and a large share of the plaudits fell to the "Old Guard."

Arriving at the grounds the procession passed in review before the D.A.G. and staff, and the Mayor and corporation, and a host of prominent citizens and visitors, after which they were dismissed for the day.

NOTES.

Sergt. R. V. Burton of the Victoria Rifles, Montreal, turned out with the Queen's Own, attached to B Company.

The sergeants of the visiting corps fraternized at the mess-rooms of both city regiments, leaving well pleased with the reception accorded therein.

The Dufferin and Princess of Wales Regiments left for home about 11 o'clock, well pleased with their trip. The men of the Kingston Battery were much dissatisfied with the food given them.

The day was warm and excessively close, but only two faints occurred during the parade, neither serious.

The officers of the visiting corps were entertained by the officers of the city regiments at the Reform Club.

The scene in the horse ring around the reviewing stand was very fine, the marching of the Queen's Own being especially fine.

Taking it all in all it has been the most successful military parade held in Toronto for some time, the whole parade, including societies, numbering 15,000 men, and taking 1½ hours to pass.

"BREECH-BLOCK."

Pigeon Communication in the Volunteer Manœuvres.

(Dover Standard.)

In mimic war much has to be imagined. The Easter operations at Dover, at Shorncliffe and at Portsmouth were based upon the "general ideas" that invading forces had landed on our Southern coast, and being in possession of the country in the vicinity of those places, compelled the British defending forces to confine their movements to the neighbourhood of their works.

Thus three English garrisons were completely shut off from communicating by ordinary means with one another, or with any part of the

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The Prize Lists include close on Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars in Cash, besides the handsome and valuable Challenge and other Trophies, Cups, Medals and Badges.

Entries for the matches included in the Grand Aggregate close on Wednesday, 27th August. The attention of intending competitors is particularly directed to the efficiency qualification required for participation in matches restricted to the Active Militia. Also to changes in the firing regulations, whereby the competitors will be squadded in threes instead of in pairs; and "any position" will be allowed at 600 yards and upwards.

Reduced Rates will, as usual, be granted by the railway companies. Tents and Blankets for those desiring to sleep upon the Range will be supplied as usual.

For particulars and all further information required apply to THOS. BACON, Lieut.-Col., Secretary D.C.R.A., Ottawa.

outside world. The telegraphs and railways had fallen into the hands of the enemy. Dover, Shorncliffe and Portsmouth were invested by the foreign foe. To meet such an emergency, a number of messenger pigeons belonging to Dover, to Canterbury, and to Portsmouth had been previously trained to carry information over the heads of the enemy to and from the beleaguered garrisons.

On the receipt of the news of the approach of the enemy an interchange of birds took place. The pigeons belonging to Dover were sent to Canterbury, to Folkestone, and to Portsmouth; while the Portsmouth birds were consigned to Eastbourne, so as to be able to convey information of the enemy's ships moving westward to attack Portsmouth from the sea. Throughout Saturday, Sunday and Monday messengers were constantly on the wing, and were frequently the bearers of valuable information. On Saturday, 24th April, an inhabitant of Canterbury secretly let fly two pigeons at about 7 a.m. The messengers brought the news that Canterbury was occupied in force, that the enemy's main body was marching on London, but that "a strong force of invaders, estimated at fully seven thousand men, with eight 20-pounder guns, are advancing on Dover. Enemy's ships reported to be still in Whitstable Bay." These pigeons were at once delivered to Major Gunter, the D.A.A.G. of the Dover forces. Thus the defenders had fully six hours, notice of the impending attack. At 11.15 a.m. a pigeon left Dover to acknowledge the receipt of this news. The message concluded, "we rely on you for valuable information. Spies giving such information to you will be liberally rewarded. Inform us if enemy places a sentry on your loft." The bird reached Canterbury before 12 noon. About 1 p.m. the enemy's advance guard came in contact with our troops, and the battle of Lydden began. While the action was proceeding the headquarters of the pigeons were established at the Bell Inn, and two messages were conveyed by this means into Dover, being delivered at the addresses for which they were intended within fifteen minutes of their having been confided to the care of the birds. This completed the tasks allotted to them on Saturday.

On Sunday, 25th April, pigeons were again on the wing from early dawn. At 5.10 a bird was liberated on Westminster Bridge by Mr. John Day, the well known Secretary of the London Columbarian Society, and conveyed the following message to Dover:—"Invaders have reached London and sent a force to invest Portsmouth; British troops reported to have been driven back into Portsmouth on Saturday (yesterday). We are now in communication with Portsmouth, as enemy is in possession of the country between that place and London. Try to compel enemy to keep a large force round Dover as our troops want time to concentrate. We believe Portsmouth Garrison will make vigorous sorties on Sunday and Monday." This information reached Dover at 9.15 a.m. and was handed to Major Patterson, the Assistant Adjutant General of the defending force, soon after 10 o'clock. The time taken to accomplish the journey of 66 miles (the distance separating London from Dover) was therefore four hours and forty minutes, during which the pigeons had continued to battle against a strong easterly wind. The defenders of Dover despatched two messengers at 11 a.m. to Canterbury, giving the news of the action of the previous day and asking for "particulars of state of wounded with you who have relatives at Dover." These birds reached Canterbury in half an hour. At 5 p.m. a pigeon arrived at Dover from Folkestone, bringing some details of the enemy's movements about Hythe.

The best work accomplished by the hardy little travellers, was, however, reserved for Easter Monday. At 8 a.m. on that day the Garrison of Dover received from Canterbury another warning of an immediately impending attack. The message concluded thus:—"Enemy have taken possession of all pigeon lofts in Canterbury, so do not liberate any more birds. I have four (4) of your pigeons safe with a neighbour, can liberate them without being detected." This warning reached our troops three hours before the attack began. While the Kentish forces were reaping the advantage of having previously prepared for the maintenance of their communication under all circumstances, the garrison of Portsmouth was making use of the same means of conveying messages.

Between 6 and 7 p.m. three pigeons reached Dover from the scene of operations near Portsmouth. These birds were liberated at 12.40 p.m., 1.30 p.m. and 2.30 p.m., respectively, on the battlefield of Windmill Hill, and carried to Dover news of the progress of the fight. At the last named hour Sir George Willis was able to send his colleague, General Fielding, the joyful news that his "victory was assured. Enemy retreating. Hope to restore telegraphic communication to-morrow morning." They had therefore traversed 100 miles of country in fairly good time, considering the stiff breeze that was blowing from the east. Each of these three birds was the bearer of a message from General Sir George Willis, K.C.B., commanding at Portsmouth, to General the Hon. P. Fielding, C.B., commanding at Dover, and the pigeons were delivered at Dover Castle soon after their arrival. The last message attached to a pigeon was sent off at 4.45 p.m., after the conclusion of the day's operations at Dover, to inform the inhabitants of Canterbury of the

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SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and endorsed, "Tender for the St. Lawrence Canals," will be received at this office, until the arrival of the eastern and western mails on Wednesday, the 23rd day of July next, for the construction of a lift lock, weirs, etc., at Morrisburg, and the deepening and enlargement of the Rapide Plat Canal. The work will be divided into three sections, each about a mile in length.

A map of the locality, together with plans and specifications of the respective works, can be seen on and after Wednesday, the 9th day of July next, at this office, and at the Resident Engineer's office, Morrisburg, where printed forms of tender can be obtained.

In the case of firms there must be attached to the tender, the actual signatures of the full name, the nature of the occupation and residence of each member of the same, and, further, an accepted cheque on a chartered bank in Canada for the sum of \$6,000, must accompany the tender for Section No. 1, and an accepted cheque on a chartered bank in Canada, for the sum of \$2,000 for each of the other sections.

The respective accepted cheques must be endorsed over to the Minister of Railways and Canals, and will be forfeited if the party tendering declines entering into contract for the works at the rates and on the terms stated in the offer submitted. The cheques thus sent in will be returned to the respective parties whose tenders are not accepted.

By order,  
A. P. BRADLEY,  
Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals,  
Ottawa, 13th June, 1890.

result of the battle of St. Radigunds, and concluded, "We hope our communication will be free to-morrow."

Considering the limited means at disposal, the somewhat extensive sphere of operations, and the difficulties that had to be overcome in securing the assistance and co-operation of persons whose knowledge comprised matters military and columbarian, these experiments with pigeons as war messengers must be regarded as highly satisfactory. Twenty birds only were available to ensure communication. Seventeen of these accomplished the tasks that were set them, and brought their messages in safety into their loft. Three birds were lost on Sunday, viz., two from Portsmouth to Dover, and one from London to Dover. The birds made use of for the longer flies from Portsmouth and from London had to be specially trained in unfavourable weather during March and April, so no Dover birds that had previously flown these routes were available. There are obvious naval and military reasons why an invasion of England should never be attempted during the winter months. If it is ever necessary to employ pigeons as war messengers in England it may be generally assumed that they will be used under favourable atmospheric conditions. In this respect our pigeon system would enjoy a marked advantage over that of any Continental nation.

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