THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

EDITORIAL.

News MATTER CROWDED OUT.

An expert's opinion.

The newest provincial association.

Dominion telegraphic match suggested.

THE ARTILLERY TOURNAMENTS.

THE LATE CAPT. VAUGHAN.

CORRESPONDENCE.
The range officers duties.—The ammunition
—C. Grenville-Hartson.

QUERIES AND REPLIES.

Promotions in Rural Corps.- M.J.S.

Militia and battalion rank.—G. T.

Soldiers at Civilian Funerals.—Keystone.

THE RIPLE.
Interest in the Northwest Territories.

THE ORLEANS ARTILLERY MEETING,
Detailed Scores of the officers' and of the 64
pr. Competition.

Topics of the Week.

A considerable quantity of contributed matter, including the scores of several regimental and other associations, has had to be left over from week to week lately, on account of the pressure of matter of more widespread importance. We had hoped to clear the sheet this week, but have to ask our contributors' indulgence for yet another issue.

The riflemen's practical experience, we fancy, agrees with the belief expressed by Capt. Harston in our correspondence columns this week, that the accuracy of the Snider ammunition is not affected by that defect in manufacture which causes the "anvil" to become detached. Of course the defect should not be there, but it should not be held to account for more than it deserves.

For their first annual prize meeting, to be held at Regina on the 4th, 5th and 7th October, the Assiniboia Provincial Rifle Association have issued a programme which, as well for the contents as the artistic manner of their presentation, would do credit to any organization. The matches, which are all for the Snider rifles, except one for the Winchester restricted to the N. W. M. Police, number fourteen all told, and a iberal series of cash prizes are offered in each, in addition to medals, cups and other trophies which any rifleman might covet. The meeting will be formally opened at 9 o'clock on Friday morning, 4th October, by His Excellency the Governor General; the silver and bronze medals presented by whom occupy places of honour upon the prize list. We will gladly welcome to the columns of the MILITIA GAZETTE the record of this inaugural tournament of the latest established provincial association; an organization which bids fair to rival in the near future more than one of those for many years in operation.

The Montreal Rifle Association is promulgating an interesting scheme as a "grand finale" of the shooting season. It is proposed to get up a gigantic telegraphic rifle match between teams from the rifle clubs of the leading cities of Canada. The match to be fired Saturday, October 5th, with Martini rifles, at 200, 500 and 600 yards, seven shots at each range, and twenty men on each team. The range totals of teams and details of weather to be sent by telegraph and the fuller details of scores (individual), etc., to be sent by mail to the Secretary of the Montreal association. The following clubs are suggested as likely to take part: Ottawa, Bowmanville, St. Catharines, Winnipeg, Quebec, Halifax, Army and Navy (Halifax), Toronto, Victoria of Hamilton, Montreal, Victoria, B.C., St. John, N.B., and Prince Edward Island.

To this list we would suggest the addition of the Assiniboia Provincial Association, who on that date will be holding their annual prize meeting, at Regina. The scheme, which is being boomed by Mr. W. R. Pringle, the acting secretary of the association, is one deserving of encouragement, and apt to give quite an impetus to rifle shooting.

The Artillery Tournaments.

Since 1885, the Garrison Artillery of the Dominion have annually met in friendly competition at the Island of Orleans, Quebec, there to put in the firing practice required by the drill regulations, and at the same time to compete for the valuable prizes offered by the Dominion Artillery Association. The only break in the series was in 1886, and was caused by the exceptional circumstance of the sending of a team to Shoeburyness, and thus absorbing the money which otherwise would have been spent upon the Orleans competition. This year's meeting was held last week, with what result may be noted in detail elsewhere in this issue. In general, it may be characterized as a pronounced success. The attendance was large, twenty-three batteries being represented. The weather was exceptionally fine. The scores were better than usual, and the highest with both 64 and 40 pounders show extremely good marksmanship, especially when it is taken into account that the targets this year consisted of barrels about 4x3 feet in size, placed at ranges of 2,000 and 1,730 yards respectively. Last year the targets were 6x8 feet, and the distances were about 1,800 and 1,600 yards.

The Halifax Brigade deserve especial congratulation for their successes. Their No 3 Battery succeeded again in taking top place in the 40 pr. competition, thus securing permanent possession, having won it two years in succession, of the Montreal challenge cup, a handsome and valuable trophy much coveted by the contestants. In the Shifting Ordnance competition, where Halifax last year took first place, that brigade was on this occasion a good second, the winners being the Prince Edward Island Brigade, who took first place also in the 64 pr. competition. By all accounts the victories in each of the competitions went by merit and not by any means by chance, for the winning teams had evidently received thorough instruction, and were carefully coached by the officers in charge, who seemingly well knew the nature of each man's liability to error and warned him accordingly.

The competition was under the direction of Lieut.-Col. Irwin, Inspector of Artillery, and Lieut.-Cols. Montizambert and Cotton, Assistant Inspectors; together with the president of the association, Lt.-Col. Macdonald of Guelph. The camp quartermaster was Major Crawford Lindsay, Q.F.B., and adjutant Capt. Rutherfored, B Battery. Surgeon Turcot, Q. F. B., was in attendance in case his professional services should be required. The register keeper was Captain Donaldson, secretary of the D. A. A., and the range officers were Captain Farley and Captain Pelletier of B Battery. There were many distinguished visitors to the Island during the week. To witness the opening of the proceedings there came, bright and early on Monday morning, the Governor General, Lord Stanley of Preston; and Lieut. Gov. Angers of Quebec; the visitors present including also

Lt.-Col. Turnbull, commandant of the Cavalry School; Lt.-Col. Forrest, District Paymaster, and Major Wright and Dr. Lloyd Thomas of H.M. S. Bellerophon. The Governor General and Lieutenant Governor spent the greater part of the day on the Island, and appeared greatly interested in the competition. All the guests were entertained at lunch in the officers' mess tent. On Wednesday afternoon the officers of the staff gave an "at home," at which the company included the Hon. Honore Mercier, Premier of Quebec. Being a man of place, Mr. Mercier said, he found the artillerymen's proceedings quite a novelty. He was pleased to have had this opportunity to pay his first visit to their camp, and in token of the interest he had in their proceedings he generously offered a valuable cup for future competition. In this connection it may be noted that Mr. Mercier is following the excellent example set by Premier Mowat of Ontario, whose cup recently presented to the provincial asso ciation is now one of its most coveted prizes. Throughout the meeting, which lasted from Monday to Friday, the camp quarters and commissariat were very efficiently looked after by Major Crawford Lindsay, and nothing but praise was heard with respect to his arrangements.

At the field artillery meeting which opens at Kingston on Tuesday next, all the corps in the Dominion are expected to be represented, except the Winnipeg, Man., and Newcastle, N.S. batteries, for whom the distance to be travelled is too great; and the Welland Canal battery, whose absence will be due to the fact that this week they go into camp at local headquarters, Port Colborne, where their practice will be per-

formed.

The Late Capt. Vaughan.

A favourite wherever known, a good officer and genial companion, died at Montreal last week in the person of Capt. Fred. S. Vaughan, of the 5th Royal Scots, who at the early age of thirty-six fell a vict m to, we believe, the dread Bright's disease His death was quite unexpected. Only a short time previously Capt. Vaughan had been participating with old time relish in his favourite sport with the rifle, having been a competitor at the Quebec Provincial matches. Outside of Montreal Capt Vaughan was best known as a rifleman, he having proved himself one of the Dominion's best shots, and in 1877 and in 1888 been a member of the Wimbledon teams. In the former year he went as sergeant in the Victoria Rifles. Having dropped rifle shooting for a number of years, he took to it again in 1887, and won his place on the team to sail the following year; amongst his achievements in the individual matches being the winning of the Macdougall Challenge Cup. His death is deeply mourned by 1) Company, whom he commanded, and they passed a touching resolution of condolence. "As a soldier," it reads, "he was an ornament to his regiment, who will miss his zealous services, a kind officer and a firm friend to us all. His loss will be heavily felt by every one of his company. We desire to express our respectful sympathy with Mrs. Vaughan in her great bereavement, and to assure her that the memory of our Captain will always be remembered with affec-

The funeral was with full military honours, the procession to and from St. George's Church including a firing party of one hundred of the Royal Scots, the regiment's band and pipers, officers of that-and other regiments, and a gun carriage of the Field Battery, bearing the coffin surmounted by the dead captain's sword and helmet, and many flowers. The chief mourners included the father and two brothers of Captain Vaughan, and his late partner Mr. McIndoe. The pall bearers were Majors Blaiklock and Strathy, and Captains Ibbotson and Hood, 5th R.S.; Major Cole and Capt. Ogilvie, M.G.A.; Captains Sims and Busteed, 3rd V.R.C. Before leaving the house a short service was conducted by the Rev. J. Edgar Hill, chaplain of the 5th, who had come back to town for that purpose.

Correspondence.

THE RANGE OFFICER'S DUTIES-THE AMMUNITION.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE.—In your issue of 5th under heading "Topics of the Week," re "grievances and range officers nagging," it may be useful to point out that at Wimbledon, where I have been three times—and where I was on the most difficult of all ranges last year, viz. 800, 900 and 1,000 yards—it is the custom of the senior range officer to parade the whole range staff every morning at his office, three quarters of an hour before firing commences, and also at 4 p.m. on the day preceding the commencement of the meeting. On the latter day he reads all the range rules to them. On the following mornings, especially on the first and second, he gives a short lecture or synopsis of the rules before they go on the ranges, and each morning he convinces himself by all available means that they understand the rules. I do not know

if these customs are followed at the D. R. A. meeting as I have never been to one, but the O. R. A. might take some very useful lessons from Wimbledon, notably in re-lettering the register keepers' boards at each re-commencement

I know, of course, nothing of your grievance, but one ought to be very chary in admitting the validity of a complaint against a range officer, as some men will always lay the blame elsewhere when they don't hold straight. My experience teaches me that the range officer is most liked, and least grumbled at, who fully enforces the rules as laid

down, firmly and of course courteously.

Regarding the ammunition grievance, may I say a word as somewhat of an expert in the manufacture. The "dropping" of shots is undoubtedly bad and genuine, as I can bear witness, having seen it, and it shows something very unreliable in the powder and filling, but I don't think much of the old caps and anvil falling into the "shoe," and do not believe it could hurt a score. It probably comes from the hole in the base of the cylinder being too large or too small—either might cause it.

C. GREVILLE-HARSTON.

Toronto, 11th September, 1889.

Queries and Replies.

PROMOTIONS IN RURAL CORPS.

Q. In a certain rural battalion the captain of No. 5 Company is offered a majority, goes to school to qualify and hands the company over to his lieutenant, who has held that rank for over 12 years. He holds the company for three months and prepares it for camp before he is gazetted captain. In the meantime the captain of No. 3 company is made paymaster, and his lieutenant, who had held that rank but a few years, is gazetted captain a few weeks before the new captain of No. 5, thus being his senior. Changes in the field officers of the battalion will soon call for a promotion for one or both of these captains. Can the captain of No. 5 take any steps to rank senior to No. 3, which is in justice his place.

M. J. S.

A. He cannot. His case is that of hundreds of officers in battalions where promotions are by precedence in company and not by

precedence in corps.

THE LAST IS FIRST.

Q. There are two majors in a battalion. One has a commission dated in 1887 as a Major in the Militia; the other as a Major in a certain battalion, January 1889. In the former no battalion is named, yet they both have served in the same for years. On the commission of the first named no word brevet is used. Which is right major of the battalion?

A. The Major in the Battalion is for battalion purposes senior to the Major in the Militia, and is thus Right Major.

SOLDIERS AT CIVILIAN FUNERALS.

Q. "Are soldiers of the Permanent Corps of the Active Militia of Canada who are members of Masonic lodges debarred from attending a brother Mason's funeral in uniform?" Para. 142 R. & O. 1887, does not apply.

KEYSTONE.

A. They are debarred from attending in uniform at any place were forbidden by their commanding officer. Having his consent, there is no regulation forbidding them to attend in uniform as individuals at a Masonic or other funeral; but the practice is for obvious reasons not one to be encouraged.

The Rifle.

THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

His Excellency the Governor General has presented a silver and a bronze medal for competition at the annual meeting of the Assiniboia Provincial Rifle Association.

The Association are trying to get a grant from the Dominion Government, as the other Provincial Associations are so favored, and we do not see why we should be left out in the cold up here.

The Association started at the beginning of this season with a butt 12 feet long by 9 feet high'; it is now 72 feet long by 9 feet high.

We started to get a service roll signed for a volunteer rifle corps lately, and got thirty names in two days. We will certainly get one company up, if not two. So much is the outcome of our Rifle Association's work

As \$2 per annum subscription from members will not cover expenses connected with building new butts and targets, our members have had to turn out and do their own carpentering work. The pits we got dug by Indians whom we employed. Our men are scarcely good enough yet to send a team to Ottawa, but we hope to have one for next year.

REGINA.

The Orleans Artillary Meeting.

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Corpl. Theakston	2	I	3 4 2	2	5 6 3	11.1	7			Battery total	_	<u></u>	<u> </u>			i	- 1	1	
Sgt. Robinson	3 4 5 1 2	2 I 2 2 2	4 4 6 6	2	5 10 8	9.4	5	20	Burst shot.	Gonner Vantassel	ī	2	2	Y BA	TTER	Υ.			
Battery tota	3 4 5	I 2 I	2 2		3 4	8.4	5	1	Blind.	Guitter Worthylake	3 4 5	2 2 2 2	6 4 2 2 6		8 6 4 4 7	11.21		26	
Battery tota			No.	6 Ba	TTER	Y.	<u>-!</u>	1111	<u> </u>	,	3	2 2	2		4 6				
Bdr. Harmen	3	I 2	6		I					SgtMaj. Woodman	4 5 1 2	2 2 2 2	4 5 2 2 6		5 7 4 4 8	12.05	••••	29	
Sgt. Snow	1 2 3	2 2 2 2	6 4 4	2		9.1	5	25		Corpl. Tobin	3 4 5 1 2 3	2 I 2 2	6		6	10.08		22	
Bdr. Watson	5 1 2 3	i	1 2 6 6		6 2 4 8 8	10.1	7	28	Blind.	Battery total	5	2	4 3		5	12.36	1	94	Blind.
Sgt. Marshall	4 5 1 2	2 2 2	6 5 4 4		7 7 6 6	0.11	5	34		-			Рісто	ov B	ATTE	RY.			
n with a	3 4 5	2	4		. 6 	9.4	4		Burst over.	SgtMaj. Coles	1 2 3	1 2 2			3 6 4		 	 	
Battery tota	.11	<u>.1</u>		7 BA			<u>.1</u>	.109	1	Gr. Babineau	5	2 2	5		4 7	12.15		24	
Corpl. Pritchard	3	2 2	6 6 4	2	7 10 6						2 3 4 5	1 	4 2 4 5		6	11.22		15	
Sgt. McLeod	4 5 1 2	2 2 2	1 .		8 4 8	12.3	0	31	•	Gr. J. McDonald	1 2 3 4	I	4 4 4 6	· ·· - · · ·	5 5 7				
Bdr. Campbell	3 4 5 1 2 3	1 2 1	6 6]	577	10.2		29	: :	Gr. S. McLeod	5 1 2 3 4 5	2 2 2	2		4 7 4	12.45		26	
	3 4 5		4		. 6 . 5 		5	25	:	Battery total	i		3		5	11.20		81	

Ne	v Br	unsw	ick	Briga	DE-	No. 1 B	ATTI	ERY.				No. 1	BA	ITERY	—С _о	ncluded	 l.	•	
NAMES.	No. of Round.	Dir.	Elev.	Hit.	Total.	Time.	Lost for Over- time.	Final Total.	Remarks.	NAMES.	No. of Round.	Dir.	Elev.	Hit.	Total.	Time.	Lost for Over- time.	Final Total.	Remarks.
Gr. Betts	1 2 3 4 5	2 2 1 2 2	6 2 6		8 4 3 8	14.53	5	18	,	Sgt. Connolly	I 2 3 4 5	2 2 1 2 2 2	空 6 2 6		L 48 38	12.00		يم 23	
Gr. ProctorGr. Fisher	3 4 5 1	1 2 2 2	6 6 2		7 8 4	16.10	8	7		Battery total			No.	2 BAT	TERY	<u></u>	<u> </u>		
Gr. Smith	3 4 5 1 2 3 4	2 2 1 1	4 2 4 4		6 3 5	. 13.40	3	6		Gr. AlleyGr. Lane	1 2 3 4 5	2 2 2 2 2 2	6 2 2 4 1 6	2	8 4 4 6 3 10	II.22		25	Blind.
Battery total	5	2) 2			14.30	4	50			3 4 5	2 I 2 2	4 6 		5 8	9.38		27	
Gunner Creighton	1 2 3	2 · I · 2	No. 4 4 4 4	3 Ba	6 5 6	Y.	• • • •			Gr. Ramsay	1 2 3 4 5	2 2 1 1 2	2 6 2	••••	4 7 3	11.40		18	
Gunner Elliott	4 5 1 2 3 4	2 2 2	2 2 6 6		8	15.02	6	15	•	ogt. Dover	3 4 5	2 2 1 2 2	4 4 2 4		8 6 5 4 6	10.00		29	
Gunner Spencer	5 1 2 3 4	2 I I 2	2 4 6 4 2		7 5 4		4	8	Blind.	Battery total	<u> </u>			4 BAT				99	!
Gunner Ferris	5 1 2 3 4 5	1 1 1 2 2	6 6 4		4 7 7 7 6	11.52	····			Gr. Scantlebury	1 2 3 4	2 1 2 2	6 4 6 4	2	10 5 10				
Battery total	•	<u> </u>	No.	4 Ba	TER			69		Corpl. Murley	5 I 2 3	2 2 2 1	5 6 4 2		7 8 6 3	12.13		38	
Bomb. Marshall	1 2 3 4	I I 2 2 2	2 2 6 6		3 3 8 8					Corpl. Quigley	5 1 2 3	2 2 2 2 1	4 5 2 6 2		6 7 4 8 3	11.40		30	
Cudlip	5 1 2 3 4	2 1 2 1 1	4 6		5 7	13.52	3		Blind.	Corpl. Whear	5 1 2 3 4	2 i I 2 2	5 6 6 6 4	2	7 7 7 10 6	7.32		27	
Fowler	3 4 5	2 I 2 2 I	6 6 4 4		7 6 6	14.53	5	9	Out of b's, under	attery total	5	2	5		7	11.40	<u> </u>	132	
Corpl. Lowrie	3 4 5	2 2 2 2	6 2	¦	8 4	10.25		 		Corpl. Byers	1	IFAX	BRIG 4 4	SADE-	-No.	2 BAT	TERY.		
	E. I	ļ	D BR	<u> </u>	 -No	D. 1 BAT	· · · ·	62		Sgt. Carroll	3 4 5 1 2	1 2 2 1 1 2	4 4 6 2		5 6 7 4	13.00		22	Out of b's, under
Sgt. Offer	3 4 5 1	2 2 1 2 1 1	6 6 2 3 4		4 4 5	9.00	••••		Blind.	Sgt. Mackay	3 4 5 1 2 3	2 2 2 1 1 2	46 36 2 46		8 5 7 3 6	12.00		J -	Blind.
Gunner Proud	3 4 5 1	2 2 2 2 2 1	6	2	10 6 10 6 7	12.27	• • • •	29		Corpl. Letson	4 5 1 2 3 4 5	2 2 2 1 2 2	6 5 6 4 2 6	1	10 7 8 6 3 10	10.00	.	33	
	3 4 4	2 2 2	4		6	10.12	••••	25		Battery tota	1	2	5		7	8.00)	119	

No.	1	BATTERY.	LEVIS

MAMES.	No. of Round.	Dir.	Elev.	Hit.	Total.	Time.	Lost for Over- time.	Final Total.	REMARKS.
Sgt. Moore	I 2	2 I	6		8				
Sgt. Lemieux	3 4 5 1 2 3	2 1 2 2 2	2 2 5 2 2 2		4 4 6 4 4	16.45	9	13	
Sg'. Loiselle	3 4 5 1	2 2 1 2	4 5 4 4 6		6 7 5 6 8	10.20		25	
SgtMaj. Lacroix	2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5	2 2 2 2 2 1 2 1 2	6 6 3 6 2 4 4 1		8 5 8 4 5 6 2	10.30		32	,
Battery total		 	l	l	 	İ		95	

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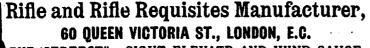
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