

A committee for soliciting subscriptions, and one for framing programme and arranging for annual match, were appointed, with instructions to report to Council at earliest possible convenience.

The annual meeting of the Brockville Rifle Club was held after the adjournment of the Association. The Secretary-Treasurer's report shewed the expenditure for past year to be slightly in excess of receipts, but from old balances brought forward, left a fund still on hand of about \$15. The total number of members for past year were nineteen, and as these few have to bear the whole expense, the finances may be considered satisfactory. The old officers were all re-elected, viz.:—Lt. Col. Jackson, President; Captain McClean, Secretary-Treasurer; and Lieut. Wilkinson, assistant Secretary. About ten members re-signed the roll.

The St. Lawrence is now clear of ice, and a few propellers and schooners have passed up and down. Builders seem very busy in commencing the erection of new, and repairing old buildings. This shows that our business people are prosperous, and our good old town steadily improving. A more desirable locality for manufacturing articles not requiring much power, cannot be found in Canada.

FROM TORONTO.

[BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

The meeting of the Council of Ontario Provincial Association takes place to-morrow to consider the amount of aid to be granted to affiliated Associations and the time and place of the first Tournament, concerning which full particulars will be sent you.

The following from the *Globe* respecting the Volunteer monument will be read with interest:—

THE VOLUNTEER MONUMENT.

For some time past very little has been heard by the public in reference to the Volunteer monument. We are glad to know that the sum necessary to the completion of the monument is now in the hands of the Committee. Some time ago the order was given to Mr. Reid, representing the firm of Mayer & Co., Montreal, who, after preparing a design, with which the Committee were pleased, commenced the work. Since that time he has been busily engaged with the models; and lately the figures have been produced in plaster, preparatory to their being transferred to the marble already imported from Italy for the work. The total height of the monument will, we may state, be about 50 feet, comprised of a series of sections, about ten feet each in height, and all appropriately ornamented. A short distance from the base will be placed the principal figures of the column—two volunteers, and figures of Grief and Faith on alternate sides. These four figures will be life-size; and the plaster casts, now completed, are spoken of, by those who have seen them, as models in form and expression. We hope the artist will be successful in transferring the same beauties of detail and general design to the final work. Surmounting the whole will be placed a figure of Britannia, about eight feet high, and resting on a pedestal about 40 feet from the

ground. It was at first intended to place a picture of the battle of Ridgeway in bas-relief on the monument; but a later design has since superseded this, and the Arms of Great Britain, Toronto and Hamilton will occupy three sides of the square—an inscription, denoting the object intended in the erection of the monument, will occupy the fourth. The foundation of the structure has already been laid in the section of the Queen's Park adjoining the University grounds. This stands about four feet from the level of the carriage way, which runs near; and when the complete structure is added, it will form one of the most attractive sights in the city. The steps ascending to the face of the pedestal will be of Montreal limestone, and the body of the monument Nova Scotian sandstone, a clear specimen of grey stone, that will contrast well with the lighter marble of which the figures will be made. Urns and other figures will be engrafted into the complete structure, in such a way as, while leaving no unnecessary void, will not offend the eye by a profusion of ornament. All the material is now on hand at Montreal, and it is expected to be completed by September next. It is hoped that his Excellency the Governor General will then be in the western Province and unveil the monument with due ceremony. It is intended to enclose the plot of ground appropriated to the Committee with a temporary railing in the shape of a *chevaux de frise* with spear-pointed heads; but it is hoped that the liberality of our citizens will suggest a more enduring guard for the protection of the memorial to our honoured dead. Ultimately, it is hoped that a neat railing composed of muskets and swords in cast iron will be constructed. It will also be found necessary, doubtless, to construct a lodge for a caretaker to the monument. It is felt that some protection of this kind will be necessary to preserve the monument entire, and it is now almost determined to take some steps of this kind in order to give security to a structure that will be a credit to the city and the Province.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In addition to the 'Captain' iron-clad turret ship lately launched, the Messrs. Laird have several vessels on hand, the most important of which H. M. iron-clad ship "Vanguard," of 3,774 tons, one of the latest class of broadside ships which is now in a forward state, with teak backing fitted, and many of her armour plates in place.

Disraeli and the other leaders of the Conservative party have frequently stated that the disestablishment of the Irish Church was only "the beginning of the end." Mr. Archdall, a member, strange to say of the party, has already endeavoured to carry out the prediction, and a few days ago moved to extend the process of disendowment and disestablishment of the Church in England and Scotland.

THE TITLE "SERGEANT."—The late Sergeant Talfourd having on one occasion landed at Granton Pier, committed his portmanteau to an old porter. His name, "Mr. Sergeant Talfourd," was pasted on it, and was observed by the porter. The learned gentleman offered payment to the porter for his trouble, but was met with the reply, "Na, na, sir, I winna take a penny; frae you, and you're very welcome, for I was once a sergeant like yourself."—*Notes and Queries.*

Von Moltke has been presented with a gorgeous sword by King William of Prussia, in commemoration of his services in the campaign of 1866, against Austria.

It is proposed to form a Confederacy of the British West India Islands. The proposed Confederacy will have two subordinate Legislatures; one in Jamaica, which will include the Bermudas, Bahamas, and Turks Islands, the Leeward Islands—comprising Antigua, Dominica, St. Christopher, Anguilla, Montserrat, Nevis, Barbuda, and the Virgin Islands, also British Honduras in Yucatan: the second division to include the Windward Islands, Barbadoes, St. Vincent, Tobago, Grenada and St. Lucia, as also Trinidad and British Guiana, with the seat of the Legislature in Barbadoes.

It is related that the Ex-Queen of Spain recently resolved to visit all the convents in Paris, but a rebuff she received at one of them will probably lead her to abandon her design. At this one she was received without any sort of ceremony, and on leaving, no one but the Lady Superior accompanied her to the door. "Why am I not treated with more respect than this?" asked her Majesty. The Superior meekly replied that it was not the custom of the house to do extraordinary honors to visitors. "But I am a Queen!" The Superior replied that no exception was made to the rules for a Queen. "Why, in Spain," exclaimed the Queen, angrily, "the nuns kneel when I enter their convent." "Oh, madame," was the answer, "here we kneel only to God."

WATER-BOTTLE FOR VOLUNTEERS.—The 2nd Surrey Administrative Battalion, always noticeable for the smartness of its equipments, has just been provided with a new pattern water-bottle, the invention we believe, of the commandant of the regiment, Colonel Cochrane. The peculiarity of the bottle is, according to the *Volunteer Service Gazette*, that it is covered with thick felt, which, as is well known, is so bad a conductor of heat that the contents of the bottle will remain at the same temperature for hours. The felt has also the advantage of preventing the bottle from being broken or injuring its wearer by a fall. The whole affair is covered with black leather, and is so arranged as to hang comfortably in the waist-belt.

A Brussels paper, *La Finance*, contains a letter as to the military movements in Prussia, which is worth quoting, though great allowances are to be made for the evident bias of the writer. He says:—

"In military and diplomatic circles, everybody appears settled in the belief of a coming war with France. Military men desire hostilities as soon as possible, for, argue they, the longer we wait the less chance we shall have, as France will be more prepared. Our military authorities are taking every precaution. The mobilization of the army is going on, and several classes of the reserve and landwehr have been called out. The putting of the army on a war footing may be carried out without any one knowing or doubting it. The public here see nothing in all this but war. They remember that landwehr ought not to be called out in time of peace under any pretext, but only when war is imminent, and when the line is ready to take the field. At Mayence the concentration of several divisions is announced, under pretext of manœuvres. It is evident that the authorities rely on the ignorance abroad relative to Prussian matters."