

It having been stated in the discussion that the Martini rifle had been found unserviceable, Capt. Harston stated that the improved block which he had had placed upon the Martini had been found to make it quite serviceable. He had six of the improved rifles about to arrive from England, and he hoped, if the association allowed it, to have these rifles tested by offering a prize of \$50 for a match to be fired with them. (Applause.) As to the cost, the wholesale cost of the improved rifles would be 55 shillings each, while the Martini cost 72 shillings. There were only twelve parts to the improved rifle against 32 in the other. The rifles were similar in outside appearance, and the same cartridge was used in both.

Col. Scoble did not think much of the Martini, and thought the fault found with the Snider was principally due to defective ammunition and to the age of the barrels, some of them having been in constant use since 1858. Mr. Watson, M.P., asked the association for a larger proportion of Martinis to be sent out to his province, Manitoba, which had organized several vigorous rifle associations. Major Bond thought it was high time the volunteers' rifles should be changed for an improved arm. Colonel White drew attention to the resolution passed last fall, on motion of Colonel O'Malley, that an endeavor should be made to have the 1,200 Martinis in the hands of the militia department served out, and Captain Hood contradicted a casual statement made during the debate, that the Martini did not do better shooting at short ranges than rifles otherwise inferior. The discussion closed by the adoption of a resolution endorsing that of the Manitoba association, and stating that in the opinion of the meeting the Canadians should be armed with the best procurable type of rifle.

Mr. E. C. Baker, M.P., submitted a letter he had received from the British Columbia association, stating that at their last meeting they had resolved to send a team to Ottawa next fall, if possible, and as a considerable item in the attendant expenses would be the railway fares, it was desired that the D. R. A. should find out from the C. P. R. the lowest possible figure from Port Moody to Ottawa and return, and use its influence with the company in obtaining favorable rates or free passes, as he understood the Maritime Province men received.

This letter was referred to the council and the meeting adjourned.

THE COUNCIL MEETING.

The council of the association met at three o'clock the same day, Lieut.-Col. Ouimet, M.P., presiding.

This gentleman was re-elected chairman for the ensuing year.

The following executive committee was appointed: Major Tilton, Lieut.-Col. Panet, Lieut.-Col. White, Mr. D. T. Fraser, Capt. Prévost, Major Blaiklock, Lieut. Macnachten, Lieut.-Col. Otter, Lieut.-Col. D. A. Macdonald, Lieut.-Col. Gibson, Major Mason, Capt. Perley, Major Bond, Major Anderson and Capt. Toller.

The association officers were re-appointed as follows:—Secretary, Lieut.-Col. Bacon; Treasurer, Lieut.-Col. Macpherson; Auditors, C. H. O'Meara, Esq., and Major Wickstead. Lieut.-Col. White, Major Tilton and Capt. Toller were appointed the finance committee. The secretary's salary was fixed at \$300, and the treasurer's at \$200 per annum.

Col. Bacon thanked the council for the mark of appreciation of his services bestowed upon him by the unexpected increase of his salary, and assured them that his most strenuous efforts would be put forth to insure the association's continued success.

The executive committee were authorized to make the requisite arrangements for assembling the Wimbledon team, to fix the time of embarkation, and to incur the necessary expense for sending such team to England.

A discussion took place about whether the Wimbledon team should do preliminary practice here or in England.

Lieut.-Col. White pointed out the great difficulty of obtaining a range in England, and urgently recommended this side.

Major Mason thought if a range could be obtained two or three day's practice in England would do more good than a week here. In fact he thought that the week's practice here was of very little use. He understood that the south of Scotland matches would take place this year before the Wimbledon matches, and he advocated that the team be sent over in time for practising there.

Mr. Macnachten spoke in favor of this plan, as also did Capt. Hood, both judging by their experience gained while with teams.

It was decided to leave the matter to the commandant of the team, subject to the concurrence of the executive committee.

It was decided that the selection of officers for the Wimbledon team should be left, as heretofore, to the chairman of the council, a motion embodying a change, of which Major Bond had given notice, being withdrawn.

Monday, the 30th of August, was fixed upon as the date for the commencement of the annual matches for 1886.

The executive committee were empowered to prepare a prize list not exceeding \$6,000 in cash. Also to prepare and publish the regulations for the next prize meeting, and the numerous suggestions made at the last competitors' meeting were referred to the executive committee, together with the letter of the B.C.R.A. already referred to.

The chairman read a letter from the secretary of the Saskatchewan District Rifle Association, whose headquarters are at Prince Albert, asking for affiliation as a provincial association, and forwarding the fee of \$25. Some discussion took place about whether or not the Saskatchewan association could be admitted as a provincial association, under the terms of the constitution.

On motion of Capt. Hood, seconded by Mr. Baker, M.P., the application was granted, and Mr. Stewart, the association's representative, who was present, was declared to be duly recognized.

Capt. Perley pointed out that the rifles in use in British Columbia were short 5-groove Sniders, and as the rules of this association provide that long rifles must be used, he asked that either the British Columbians be allowed to fire with the short rifle, or that others be furnished them.

It was pointed out to Capt. Perley that under the rules either long or short rifles could be used.

It was suggested that the standing match should be shot with Martinis and included in the aggregate, to which the objection was raised that no match with Martinis could be included in the aggregate until every member could be supplied with one. It was also suggested that scoring black-boards should be provided for use on the range as at Wimbledon. Both these matters were referred to the executive and the meeting adjourned.

The new executive committee met immediately after the adjournment of the council, when Lieut.-Col. Wm. White, 43rd, was unanimously elected chairman.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S MEETING.

The following suggestions, made at the competitors' meeting last September, were adopted:

That the annual report be sent to each competitor desiring a copy and leaving his address.

That placards containing the programme of the annual matches should be printed, and posted up in armories and other public places.

That sighting and blow-off shots should be abolished.

That ties in skirmishing matches should be decided by the greatest number of hits.

That the standing match at 200 yards should be included in the grand aggregate.

That the rule restricting competitors from going to Wimbledon more than twice in five years be abolished.

The executive decided to communicate with Col. Gzowski, A.D.C., concerning a change of equipment for his military prizes.

The programme for the principal matches of next fall's competition was adopted.

A discussion was held as to the quality of Canadian-made Snider cartridges, and it was determined to ascertain the cost of having special ammunition manufactured for the association.

A committee composed of the chairman, the secretary, Major Anderson and Capt. Perley, was appointed to prepare the ranges for the annual competition, and one composed of the chairman, the secretary, Major Tilton, and Mr. E. C. Baker, to ascertain what arrangements could be made with railway companies favoring the cheaper transfer of competitors, especially those from the more distant provinces.

The meeting then adjourned.

3RD VICTORIA RIFLES.—The members of the Victoria Rifles held a special general meeting on Friday last, Colonel Crawford presiding. The armory committee submitted a report, showing that the sum required for the proposed new building had been promised. It is now proposed to raise the capital stock from \$20,000 to \$25,000. Major Henshaw, who was on the ill-fated *Oregon*, came in whilst the meeting was in progress and received a hearty reception. Company drills were to begin on the 22nd.

MONTREAL.—Last week the mayor and commanding officers of city corps received invitations from the officers of the 12th Regiment of Hartford, Conn., to be present at a review of that regiment. The invitations issued stated that the demonstration is held "in honor of the Mayor of Montreal, who is expected to be present." The following gentlemen accepted the invitation:—Mayor Beaugrand, Lieut.-Col. Stevenson, Lieut.-Col. Hughes and Lieut.-Col. Gardner. There is an expressed wish among the officers of the corps of the city to have a grand review on the Queen's birthday, and if this is arranged it is expected that the Twelfth, the Barlow Grays of St. Albans, Vt., and the Citizens' corps of Troy, N.Y., will be present and participate. There is also a prospect of Montreal being visited late in the summer by the members of two American military organizations. The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston is one of the oldest military organizations in the States and is an offshoot of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of London, England, of which the Prince of Wales is colonel.