

Lord Stanley of Preston in reply thanked the mover for the kind words just spoken, and said that whatever efforts he had made in connection with the artillery meetings had occasioned him sincere pleasure. On every occasion except one since he had come to Canada he had attended the meeting at Orleans, and his impression was always favourable. The Camp Commandant and Quartermaster were entitled to great credit for the arrangements made, and the range itself could not be improved upon in that part of the country. He was glad to hear that a concession was to be made to the Garrison Artillery of the Maritime Provinces, in the way of holding the next meeting at Halifax. He felt quite sure—and General Herbert would bear him out—that the Regulars there have every desire to facilitate the camp arrangements. Sir John Ross had expressed his willingness to give opportunities for practice with the improved guns at Halifax, and anything sanctioned by the authorities he would gladly carry out.

Since the last meeting of the Association, there had been a change in the office of Minister of Militia, a gentleman well known as the most efficient head of another department having been placed where he could be of immense advantage to the militia force. He was glad to see the new Minister present, and would direct his attention to the small appropriation for rifled ordnance made every year, though no advantage was taken of it. He would not advise any but the most cautious investment in this connection, but thought we should have the most improved guns of position. If, however, our present weapons are not as perfect in equipment as they might be, practice with them is of great advantage and he trusted it would not be neglected during the coming year.

The field batteries so far as he had seen had maintained an excellent record, and he congratulated the Durham Battery upon their exceptionally proud position. As to the Association generally, so long as the spirits now inspiring prevails, it could claim and should receive the utmost attention from all good citizens.

#### THE MINISTER OF MILITIA.

Major Cole moved a vote of thanks to the Government, to Parliament, and to the Minister of Militia; and that Lt.-Col. the Hon. Mackenzie Bowell be elected a Vice-Patron of the Association. He felt sure, he said, that the new Minister of Militia would afford them all assistance in his power. Lt.-Col. Otter seconded the resolution, which was declared carried.

Lt.-Col. Hon. Mackenzie Bowell, replying, thanked the Association for the resolution, and Lord Stanley for the kind reference made in his address. He could promise His Excellency and the head of the Council that whatever advice he might tender them his desire would be to do what was best in the interest of the force.

He knew that in the days of his active military connection there were very great demands on its behalf, and he anticipated that in this as in the Customs Department the demands would be rather more than could be granted. He invited, however, representation of all desires, and if any could not be granted he would frankly tell them so, and why (applause). This he had found to be the better way for all concerned. On the subject of weapons, he thought it highly desirable that the best arm procurable should be had for each branch of the service, and he should do his best to render the Artillery and the whole force as effective as possible.

#### A NEW RULE.

In accordance with notice given Lt.-Col. Irwin moved the following resolution affecting the Rules of the Association:—“That the following be made a rule: ‘Officers who compete for prizes must be life or annual subscribers to the Association.’”

He desired also to make an explanation which would have been made by Major Stewart, the President of the Council, had he been present. This related to the reference to the Morris tubes, which the Council had reported as not forthcoming. These, he was happy to state, had been received, and were now ready for issue to those field batteries in a position to make intelligent use of them. The duck suits also had been received, and would be issued in time for this year's drill.

The motion carried, after endorsement by the chairman, who said he would like to see every officer a subscriber to the Association.

Capt. Donaldson moved a vote of thanks to the Hamilton Powder Co., for their continued donation of \$100 to the funds of the Association, and that Dwight Brainerd, Esq., be elected a life member. He wished it particularly noted that this was the only mercantile firm contributing to the funds. The resolution carried.

#### THE PRESIDENCY.

General Herbert moved that Lt. Col. Curren, H.G.A., be elected President for the coming year. This choice, he pointed out, would be particularly apt in view of the intention to hold the next Garrison meeting at Halifax. As the Maritime Provinces furnish so large a proportion of the competitors and the Halifax Brigade is one of the most efficient in the Dominion it would be a graceful act this year to move the meeting down to Halifax. He knew there would be no difficulty about the arrangements. There were at Halifax some of the most modern specimens of artillery, and this opportunity of seeing the really scientific application of artillery knowledge would give a decided impetus to our force.

#### THE GENERAL'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

He thought it not out of place here to make some few remarks on the Canadian Artillery in general, and its efficiency,

which he thought was largely due to this Association. As he had already intimated in a General Order, he considered the Artillery the most efficient arm in the Dominion, and this he attributed to the system of inspection carried out in connection with the work of the Dominion Artillery Association. Inspection had thus been prevented from degenerating into a mere parade and march past, for while the effect of inspection—what is efficiency and what is not—had been largely lost sight of in many instances, such was not the case here. Even here, however, he considered that too much importance had been attached to some things and not enough to others—for instance, discipline and interior economy appeared to be slighted—and he had discussed with the Inspector plans for improvement, with the result that he thought they had struck upon a plan for keeping the ledgers in better order, thus securing that the batteries should get their equipment in proper time. He blamed the officers of the batteries for the hitherto faulty administration which had permitted the matter of equipment to be neglected until the last moment.

#### THE PERIOD FOR DRILL.

In the Report of Council, at Paragraph 8, he noticed a strong recommendation that a longer period than twelve days should be allowed for the annual drill of the Artillery. This he could not support, so long as he saw a third of the Militia not drilled at all. He would, however, recommend the grant of pay by the Department to such detachments as go into camp for practice under the auspices of the Association. Personally, he would like to see the period of drill increased, but feared this could not be done; the other he thought could be done.

#### THE VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Lt.-Col. Prior, M.P., seconded the motion and the election of Lt.-Col. Curren as President was unanimously carried. Lt.-Cols. Armstrong, Prior, and Turnbull were re-elected Vice-Presidents, and Lt.-Col. Moore, P. E. I. G. A., was elected a Vice-President in place of Lt.-Col. Curren. Lt.-Col. Stevenson, Capt. W. McCrae, and Capt. D. C. F. Bliss were elected members of Council.

Capt. Bliss moved, and Lieut. Gilmour seconded, a vote of thanks to the Auditors, Lt.-Col. John Macpherson and Mr. F. E. Knight, which was carried unanimously.

#### THE RETIRING PRESIDENT.

The chair having been taken by Lt.-Col. Turnbull, a vote of thanks to the retiring President, Lt.-Col. Stevenson, was moved by Lt.-Col. Irwin, who feelingly referred to the various capacities in which Col. Stevenson had served the Association for many years past, and the regret all felt that ill health had caused his absence from last camp. He knew it was very hard for Col. Stevenson to dissociate him-