

shell was the principal projectile, but has none now, when shrapnel is almost exclusively used."

As long ago as 1886, Major von Rohne quotes, with approbation, from the work of a French artillery officer, Captain Viant, as follows:—

"The gist of his views is that the intensity of modern artillery fire does not permit the fire to be concentrated on one portion of the opposing artillery while the other portion is let alone. On the one hand the ranging is made more difficult, and on the other it permits the adversary to carry out his without let or hindrance"

"When the opponents artillery is in equal force, and when the enemy is not yet ranged, he will only admit the concentration of fire in a single case. Namely, when the target is to a great extent shrouded in smoke, it *may* be advantageous to concentrate the fire against the unhidden portion. The distribution of fire will, however, be imperative when the first of the enemy's shell fall in the position; then shrapnel will not be long in coming, and the batteries might be annihilated before their ranging was completed. The only salvation lies in the quickest possible opening of shrapnel fire, distributed along the whole of the enemy's line."

(To be continued.)

REGIMENTAL.

THE GRENADIERS.

The members of the "Grens' Sergeants' Mess held their regular monthly smoking concert on Wednesday evening last. The sergeants were out in full force and brought many of their friends, both civilian and military. A number of songs and recitations were given by the following gentlemen, Messrs. Harris, McDonald and Hutchinson, a banjo solo by Mr. Jarvis, a mouth organ solo by Mr. Bruce, etc. One feature of the evening were the acrobatic feats of the Sinclair brothers. The sergeants are to be congratulated on the success of their monthly entertainments.

The clothing for the two new companies has arrived, so Capt. Manley and Harston can get to work at once.

Major Mason has presented the Sergeants' Mess with a finely illustrated work called "Toronto, New and Old."

Capt. Harston's company is to be "I".

QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES.

I can venture to say without much fear of contradiction that no other company in the militia of Canada can boast of just having celebrated their twenty-ninth annual dinner. Such was the occasion on which the members of E Co. and their friends met at the Arlington Hotel on Friday evening last, 6th inst. It was just 9 o'clock when to the strains supplied by the Bugle Band orchestra the company filed into the gaily decorated dining room of the Arlington Hotel, where mine host Matthews had prepared a spread which compared most favourably with any military dinner ever held in the city by any of the regiments. A unique and attractive feature of the table decorations were the number of fairy lamps which dotted the tables. After a hearty discussion of the bill of fare, and when the inner man had been amply satisfied, the tables were cleared and the toast of "The Queen" opened the second part of the programme. Lieut. Knifton then proposed the toast of "The D.A.G.," and in so doing paid some very graceful compliments to his former commander. Col. Otter, on rising to respond, was received most enthusiastically, those assembled singing "He'll be a General By and Bye." He thanked them for their assurance and hoped that their prophecies would be correct. He stated that at a gathering like this, if he had any schemes in contemplation, he took the opportunity to promote them. His scheme, which he would ask all present to take into their serious consideration, was this: In future

instead of the regiment visiting any city or town on the 24th of May, that they in conjunction with the other city corps, would form a marching column, with its advance guard, and practise the different modes of attack, etc., necessary in advancing through a hostile country, believing that in so doing more benefit would arise than if the time was spent in some strange town.

"The Canadian Militia" was proposed by Capt. Mutton, he at the same time giving an interesting synopsis of the history of the militia since 1759. This toast was responded to by Major Vidal, C Co., I. S. C., and Capt. Manley, R. G.

The toast of "Our Commanding Officer and Staff" was proposed by Sergt. Cauldwell and responded to by Lt.-Col. Hamilton, Capt. Mason and Quartermaster Heates. Col. Hamilton made a few brief remarks, in which he stated that about twenty-five years ago he was one of the rear rank men in this company. "Our Guests," proposed by Corp. Lennox, brought responses from Prof. Baker, Toronto University, and Staff-Sergt. Walker. "Our Sister Corps," proposed by Sergt. Pearson, was responded to by Major Meade, T.F.B., and Lieut. McLellan, R.G.

The remaining toasts were:—"Ex-Members," proposed by Col.-Sergt. Bowden and responded to by Judge Lawson, now of New Jersey, Capt. Thompson, ex-Capt. Miller, ex-Col.-Sergt. Simpson, ex-Sergt. Blight; "The Ladies," responded to by Pte. Blair, and the "Press."

The musical programme was lengthy, and was contributed to by the following: Capt. Manley, Bugler Davies, Ptes. Cuthbert, Caldwell and Francis, Sergt. Pearson, Sergt. Wood, Col.-Sgt. Cooper, Mr. J. Macdonald, Mr. Milne and the Bugle Band Orchestra. It was nearly 3 o'clock e'er the last of revellers left the scene of the pleasantest dinner ever given by this company.

BREECH BLOCK.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

[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.]

HOLIDAY PARADES AND FIELD DAYS.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE.—After your correspondent "Stadacona" has learned to distinguish between a "holiday parade" and a "field day," he will, no doubt, be in a better position to discuss the state of my health. Yours, etc.,

10th March, 1891.

SNAP CAP.

Perhaps the explosive of the future has yet to be discovered, but it seems likely that dynamite will before long play a very important part in military and naval operations. The danger of dynamite shells hitherto has been their liability to explode before leaving the gun. Zalinski's dynamite gun has in part got over this difficulty, but its aim is imperfect. Lieut. Graydon, another officer of the United States Navy, has invented a dynamite shell for which it is claimed that it may be fired from an ordinary field piece. The discharge of powder behind the shell, however, must invariably involve some risk. The inventor is now engaged on a pneumatic gun for firing his dynamite shells, the bursting charges of which are made in small pellets. As soon as the shell strikes the explosion takes place. The first of the Graydon guns has for some time past been under construction at Birmingham, and is now ready for trial. It is a rather heavy piece of ordnance, 15 inches calibre, and may be loaded and fired at any degree of elevation.

Many a once suffering consumptive has had reason to bless that valuable preparation, T. A. SLOCUM'S OXYGENIZED EMULSION of PURE COD LIVER OIL. Every druggist sells it, whilst the office of the company at Toronto, Ontario, can bear witness to the daily increasing demand for it.