

APPENDIX.

THE following account of the Rifle Competition at Bedford in 1865 is abridged from "THE HALIFAX REPORTER":—

The Annual Competition of the Provincial Rifle Association of Nova Scotia, held at the new range at Bedford, was commenced on the 5th September and continued the three following days. On the first day the sky was overcast, and a shower about noon sent all the idlers in search of shelter. His Excellency Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell arrived on the ground about half-past eleven o'clock, and was received by the guard with the customary honors. The competitors, about 250 in number, had at this time been formed into twelve squads, and placed opposite their targets at the 300-yard range. Opposite No. 1 target a rifle had been placed on a tripod, and after it had been sighted, Lady Macdonnell, advancing gracefully, and with a smiling face, pulled the trigger. Every one looked to see where the shot had struck. It was the first one, and a few seconds only elapsed before a white disc was displayed, signifying a bull's-eye. Immediately thereupon the firing commenced. It was determined, after a few rounds had been fired, to keep the men at the short ranges of all the competitions, before proceeding to the long ranges. The second competition was passed over, as the competitors from Prince Edward Island had not arrived. About two-thirds of the competitors in the first competition were disqualified, having failed to score eight at the first range. In the firing for the National Association Medal, not nearly so large a proportion were disqualified. Much praise is due to the officers in command of squads for the efficient manner in which they performed their duty. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was one of the competitors for the Ladies' Cup, but, scoring only eight, was disqualified, and "fell out" before the firing commenced at the long ranges.

On the second day the competitors fell in at nine o'clock, and were told-off to their respective squads. Scarcely had they reached their posts when the rain commenced falling in