

It is but right to mention that the high efficiency of the batteries is largely due to the untiring efforts of Captain and Adjutant P. Æ. Irving and Master Gunner Cornish of C Battery.

Church parade was on Sunday, the 27th July, when a fair turnout was made, headed by C Battery band, the three batteries marching to St. John's Church, where an appropriate sermon was preached.

The prize list of the British Columbia Rifle Association has just been issued and contains fourteen events besides five extra series. The money offered in prizes is good and no doubt will induce a big gathering of rifle shots from all over the Province. This is the seventeenth annual prize meeting. His Honour the Lt.-Governor is Patron. The President is Lt.-Col. Prior, the popular and respected officer now in command of the Canadian team at Bisley. The matches will be held at Goldstream, a place on the railway about 10 miles from the City of Victoria. A train will leave at 8 a.m. and return in the evening each of the four days, namely the 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th of August.

A rifle team of five men will represent this Province at Ottawa this year. "BLACK PRINCE."

Belleville.

This year the 15th Battalion experienced their first trip abroad, having visited Toronto for two days during the summer carnival. They left by special train on Monday evening, June 30th, and arrived home Thursday morning, July 3rd. As "Breech-Block" has already favoured the readers of the GAZETTE with an account of the part the military took in the proceedings, a repetition by me is unnecessary. Suffice it to say that the 15th enjoyed themselves, both officers and men. Too much credit cannot be accorded the officers of the gallant Q. O. R. for the happy manner in which they entertained the officers of the visiting corps at the Reform Club rooms, Tuesday evening, July 1st.

The annual inspection of the 15th Battalion was held Monday afternoon, July 7th. Before marching from the drill shed the rolls were called by Capt. Strange, District Paymaster; they then proceeded to the hospital lot, where the inspection took place. The D.A.G., Lt.-Col. Van Straubensee, was received with a general salute, the band playing the National Anthem. After arms were shouldered he passed through the ranks, being accompanied by Lt.-Cols. Lazier and Lewis, and inspected the accoutrements, &c. The battalion were afterwards put through the manual exercise by Major Henderson, and the firing exercise by acting Major Ponton. It had been threatening rain all afternoon, and during the latter exercise it began to come down in torrents, accompanied by deafening claps of thunder and very sharp lightning. As soon as possible the battalion returned to the drill shed by the shortest route, but before they arrived there all received a drenching. After a few remarks by Col. Lazier the companies were dismissed.

Lt.-Col. Lewis, Brigade Major, remained over until Thursday 10th, when he inspected the armouries of the 15th, and the armoury of No. 1 Co. 49th Hastings Rifles. I see the old gentleman received some injuries through an accident last week over in Prince Edward County; I trust they will not prove serious.

Major T. C. Lazier, Adjutant R. E. Lazier and Lieut. S. D. Lazier, three brothers, and all of the 15th, are enjoying their holidays in the Old Country.

Capt. J. E. Halliwell left on Thursday morning, 24th, for London, Ont., where he is going to take a special course at D Infantry School.

A base ball match was played on the agricultural grounds Wednesday afternoon, 23rd, between a picked team from Nos. 4 and 6 Companies. It resulted in a victory for No. 4 team.

Mr. H. G. Parker, formerly of Belleville, but late of London, Eng., delivered a lecture in the Opera house on Monday evening, 21st, for the benefit of the 15th Battalion. A large and fashionable audience were present to listen to the eloquent lecturer. Lt.-Col. Lazier occupied the chair, and in a few well chosen remarks introduced the lecturer of the evening, who had chosen for his subject, "Under All Flags." Having travelled extensively since he left Belleville, some five years ago and seen human life and nature in its various forms in the various countries which he has visited, he was enabled to depict it to the audience in a manner pleasing and eloquent. At the close of the lecture a vote of thanks was moved by Mr. J. J. B. Flint, and seconded by the Rev. Dr. George, and was carried unanimously. The full silver band of the regiment was present and discoursed several selections. Before the lecture began a squad of picked men from A Co. performed the physical drill with arms, also the new bayonet exercise, attack and defence. They were under the instruction of Sergt.-Major McRae, and are to be complimented for the manner in which they discharged the rather tedious exercise, which was performed with accuracy and precision and reflects great credit on the instructor and themselves. "ARGYLE."

Having traded Heligoland with the Germans for valuable possessions in Africa the British Government are said to be proposing to cede to the French their rights over Senegambia, Africa, for the French rights in the Newfoundland fisheries.

ARMY ORGANIZATION.—A multitude of men do not constitute an army. Even with arms in their hands and uniforms upon their backs, they may still be a mob. The work of converting this human raw material into a fitting instrument of war may be considered under three heads, organization, drill and discipline. Organization may be said in a general way to be the forming, from all the elements brought together, one body, every member of which may be instantly put in motion by an impulse communicated from the head. More specifically it is the division and subdivision of the mass into parts and into units; the fixing of the chain of responsibility from the General-in-Chief down to the commander of the smallest subdivision, the placing of each man of the multitude, and then providing for his maintenance—for his arms and ammunition—for his food and clothing. Organization is of two kinds, tactical and administrative; tactical, that which relates to the preparation of men for the field of battle; administrative, that which looks to their maintenance in peace as well as in war.—Califf.

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Dominion Rifle Association.

The Annual Prize Meeting of the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association will be held on the Rideau Rifle Range, Ottawa, commencing on

Monday, 1st September.

The Prize Lists include close on Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars in Cash, besides the handsome and valuable Challenge and other Trophies, Cups, Medals and Badges.

Entries for the matches included in the Grand Aggregate close on Wednesday, 27th August. The attention of intending competitors is particularly directed to the efficiency qualification required for participation in matches restricted to the Active Militia. Also to changes in the firing regulations, whereby the competitors will be squadded in threes instead of in pairs; and "any position" will be allowed at 600 yards and upwards.

Reduced Rates will, as usual, be granted by the railway companies. Tents and Blankets for those desiring to sleep upon the Range will be supplied as usual.

For particulars and all further information required apply to

THOS. BACON, Lieut.-Col.,
Secretary D.C.R.A., Ottawa.