

more fortunate western corps. It is a wonder, indeed, that the Montreal corps keep up as they do, for there is little, if anything, in the way of recreation provided for them.

The D.C.R.C. Hussars held the first social of the season last Friday. It was a great success and reflected great credit on Sergt.-Major Lilly and his committee. The armory reminded one more of a cavalry room in some of the crack mounted regiments in the Old Country. Sergt.-Instructor Hawker has not forgotten the knack of getting up a nice display with the accoutrements of a cavalryman. His piece of work made up of swords, scabbards and cleaning rods, and hung from the ceiling, was much commented on and showed great ingenuity on the part of the designer.

The quarters of the field battery are also very well got up and smack a good deal of regularism. The display at a social is well worth going to see. The Montreal infantry corps may not be able to make such a fine show with their armories as the Toronto men, still with what room they have they are indeed a credit to any district, and as for the cavalry and field battery quarters they would give points to the same corps west.

The officers of the 65th Battalion gave a very enjoyable smoker on Wednesday night. The different city corps were all represented.

The sergeants of the 2nd R.C.A. tendered a dinner to the members of the Shoeburyness Team. They were Lieut.-Col. Cole, commandant of the team; Sergt.-Major Fellowes, Quartermaster-Sergt. McGuinness, Sergts. Morrison and Gillis, and Bombr. Dickson.

ROYAL SCOTS QUALIFYING.

The examining board in connection with the class for promotion of the Royal Scots will make their final examination on Friday night. This class has done good work, which will no doubt bear good results before next season is over. The Scots are going on the principle, and a very good one too, that no promotion will be given unless the applicant has a proficiency certificate granted by the board. This does away with any favoritism, and at the same time has a healthy influence on the rank and file, for they will recognize that the non-coms. are better qualified than has heretofore been the case. Major Lydon, who had the class in hand, is to be congratulated on having not only kept up the attendance, but at the same time imparted his instruction in such a manner that the class now over would be able to hold its own with any similar class in the Dominion.

THE VICS' CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.

The attendance at the Morris tube competition, in connection with the different battalions, is well maintained and some very good scores have been made during the past week. The money spent by the companies for prizes for this competition is well expended, as shooting is entered into with such healthy rivalry that this practice does a great deal towards keeping up a company's reputation on the rifle range.

The Victoria Rifles recognize this winter work as being of great assistance to them. A challenge vase has been presented by Lieut. Starke for section competition in Morris tube shooting. Capt. Meakins has also offered a cup for the best company in the battalion. The aim of the officers of the Vics. is to have every man in the regiment learn the use of the rifle. The fight for the trophies will be the means of drawing the men out to this work.

No. 5 Co. Victoria Rifles (Capt. Wilson) held its annual dinner on Saturday, when a jolly time was spent. During the course of the evening Color-Sergt. Phillips, who is retiring, was the recipient of a present from the company for his efforts in keeping the company up to its present standard of efficiency.

No. 3 Co. Victoria Rifles held their annual supper on Friday night. Capt. Meakins presided. General regret was expressed at Capt. Meakins having to sever his connection with the company, he hav-

ing received the junior majority of the regiment. At the same time congratulations on his promotion were heartily tendered. Capt. Meakins has been identified with No. 3 since 1878, he having joined that year as a private.

A most successful concert was given by the cycle corps of the Victoria Rifles in the armory on Thursday night. During the evening Col. Starke, C.O., presented the prizes to the successful competitors. Mr. Wyness won the mileage prize, having ridden no less than 972 miles during the club's summer rides. Col. Starke spoke of the great assistance these corps were to a regiment, and said that during the recent parades of the regiment he found them invaluable and much better adapted for the work than horses.

ARTILLERY INSPECTED.

At a meeting of No. 2 Co., R.C.A., of Montreal, which was held the other night, Gnr. Sharpe was presented with the handsome Ogilvy Cup for the highest score. This cup now belongs to Gnr. Sharpe, he having won it once before.

Lieut.-Col. Montizambert, R.C.A., inspector of artillery, was in Montreal last week and inspected the stores of the field battery and artillery. He expressed himself highly pleased with the way they were kept.

COTE ST. LUC RANGES USELESS.

Lieut.-Col. Houghton, D.O.C., spent a couple of days inspecting the ranges at Cote St. Luc last week. Mention has already been made of the dangerous condition of these ranges, and it is needless to go further into the matter, as everyone who has shot over them is fully aware of their condition. They would be quite unfit for the new rifle, and even to shoot with safety with the old rifle they would require to be greatly repaired. Col. Houghton and the architect are both preparing a report on the matter. They will report on the unsatisfactory condition, and recommend that the present ranges require a good deal of patching before they would be of service with the old rifle, and if the new rifle is to be used that new ranges will be required. Shooting men are anxiously awaiting some definite plan from the Department, as they are thoroughly disgusted with the present state of affairs.

NEW RIFLES IN MONTREAL.

A consignment of the new rifles arrived in Montreal this week. Each of the corps is to receive 25 for instructional purposes. By this it would seem that the general distribution is not far distant, and that the Sniders will soon be "retired as unfit for further service." It is to be hoped that classes of officers will now be formed, so that they may have a thorough knowledge of the weapon before it goes into general use. A large number of the officers know little or nothing about the mechanism of a rifle, as in the past this part of instruction seems to have been omitted from an officers' class.

FORT GEORGE.

THE NEW RIFLE IN TORONTO.

The main topic in regimental circles in Toronto is the N.C.O. classes. The Highlanders are already at work, and the Queen's Own and Royal Grenadiers will start early in January. The classes are particularly interesting this year on account of the necessity for instruction in the new rifle, 25 stand of which have been served out to each battalion. In this connection it is worthy of note that 25 stand of arms per battalion is a decidedly small allowance, especially when it is remembered that it is in the highest degree advisable to put all the N.C.O.'s already in the corps through this course. It is understood that two of the corps applied for at least double the number, but could get only the 25 allotted. Thus they will be obliged to have two or three classes instead of one, and will thus be put to inconvenience, and sometimes expense.

Mr. Arthur P. Taylor is to enter the Highlanders.

Major Hay has retired from the Royal Grenadiers. Capt. Trotter is the senior qualified captain and so, it is generally supposed, will succeed to the vacant majority.