

MILITARY SCHOOL, ST. JOHN.

Scarcely a year has elapsed since the opening of the Military School at Saint John.

Cadets have obtained certificates therefrom, of which four are 1st Class certificates. Though I regret that few have been enabled to avail themselves of the advantages of the school during the summer months, it cannot be denied that the Force has already derived much benefit from the thorough knowledge of drill diffused throughout the Province. Under the old system, whereby but a limited number of non-commissioned officers of the Imperial Army were employed as Drill Instructors, it was impossible that every corps could share alike the advantages of the presence of these men, who I regret to add too often failed to afford company officers sufficient opportunities of acquiring a knowledge of that important duty of imparting instruction to others.

Those drilled at Military [Schools, however, bring to their corps the "education" which they have received by their training under the new and admirable system.

RIFLE COMPETITION.

I regret that I have so nearly exceeded the limits assigned for my Report, as to prevent my reviewing at any length, the steps taken during the past year, to attain improvement in rifle practice, by means of rifle competition. Returns of the following matches have been transmitted to you :

1. The NEW BRUNSWICK Provincial Rifle Association, held at Fredericton, 14th to 17th September, inclusive.
2. CHARLOTTE COUNTY Rifle Association, held at St. Stephen, 13th October.
3. CARLETON Co. Rifle Association, held at Woodstock, September 7th.
4. ST. JOHN Rifle Association, held at Adelaide Road, St. John, September 10th.
5. KING'S Rifle Association, held at Sussex Vale, August 29th.
6. NORTHUMBERLAND Rifle Association, held at Chatham—two matches—August 31st, September 1st, and do. 30th.

With reference to the general competition at Fredericton, having been present in command of the competitors.

I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the successful result of the match.

It is true there should have been a larger number than 120 volunteers to compete for the numerous prizes offered.

However, one could not fail to observe that all, or nearly all, of those present were "crack shots." The shooting of one man in particular must be noticed, "Young Pallin," from Northumberland, now well known for his extraordinary shooting and steadiness of nerve, carried off three first prizes of seven offered. I may here state that a novel feature in our competition was introduced at the suggestion of H. H., the Lieut.-Governor, who, in conjunction with the Local Government, offered the sum of \$120 as prizes for skirmishing. The practice was carried out under the Hythe Regulations with excellent results; the men, well trained at individual firing, speedily learned to think and act for themselves; and this most essential practice was, in consequence, very effective.