

the Battery, and one end of the room was decorated with the clubs, dumb-bells, gloves, fells, &c., showing that the amusements are spiced with a little exercise.

Shortly after 9 o'clock the party, numbering about one hundred, sat down, and after grace by Bat. Clerk Way, did full justice to one of Mr. Wilson's best spreads, which was utilized by all.

- After thoroughly enjoying the spread, the Chairman, Major Graham, the commander of the Battery, commenced the programme of the evening by proposing the toast of "The Queen," after which the following programme was carried out: - Song—"Beautiful Boy" R W Longueil, Toast—"Governor General of Canada." Mr. Smith, Scotch Song— Mr. Smith, Toast—"The Army and Navy." R. Blackmore, Song—"Grandpa's Time-piece," R. Blackmore, Toast—"The D.A.G. and Militia Staff." Responded to by Major Guy.

The Militia stores Department, who, in his remarks, complimented the Field Battery on their prestige as the first corps in the province, and received in terms of praise to the efficiency of the volunteers generally.

- Toast—"Our Brother Volunteers," responded to by Capt. McInnis and Corporal Sterling, of the 63rd H. V. B.R., and Lieut. Brockley, H. G. A. Toast—"The Mayor and Corporation," to which Alderman Story responded in a happy manner, and related several interesting reminiscences of the Militia in the "olden time." Toast—"The Press" Responded to by the Recorder representative, and Mr. Sterling for the Herald.

Mr. Holt was then called upon, and gave a pleasing rendition from "Knights of St. John," and the grave scene from "Hamlet." The amusement was continued till the " wee sma' hours," when the party dispersed, well pleased, and after enjoying themselves thoroughly, as remarked by the chairman, with nothing but "black ammunition" (i.e., lemonade and ginger ale) - Halifax Recorder.

8th ROYAL RIFLES, QUEBEC.—This fine corps is now performing its annual drill. The officers have every reason to be proud of their men. Some of the companies have carried out their target practice at Beauport Flats. Nos 5 and 6 Companies did not make as high a score as was expected, owing to the velocity of the wind, which interfered very much with the practice of the young hands.

WELLINGTON & ONTARIO FIELD BATTERIES, QUELPHI.—These batteries have been formed into a provisional brigade to be designated the "1st Provisional Brigade of field artillery." Capt. & Bt. Major A. H. Macdonald, G.S., has been appointed Major commanding. The Wellington Battery, under command of Captain Wm. Nicoll, G.S., will be known as No. 1 Battery, and the Ontario, under command of Captain McCrae, as No. 2.

QUEBEC FIELD BATTERY.—The report on the efficiency of this Battery was accidentally omitted in the annual report for 1878, by Lt. Colonel Strang, Inspector of Artillery. It is reported that the battery is in a very satisfactory state of efficiency, and the result of the inspection will be published in the next annual report - G. O., 12 March, 1880.

The G. G. Foot Guards.

This Regiment furnished a guard of honor consisting of one captain, two lieutenants, four sergeants, and fifty rank and file with Queen's color and band, on Saturday, 6th March, on the opening of the Academy of Arts at Ottawa, by His Excellency the Governor-General. Lieut.-General Sir E. S. Smyth, K. C. M. G., and Aide-de-Camp, together with a number of Senators and Members of Parliament with their wives and daughters were also present.

The regiment has received from Lieut.-Colonel Freemantle, commanding the Coldstream Guards, London, England, as a souvenir in commemoration of their uniforms being similar, an historical record of the Coldstreams from their formation in 1665 to the present, giving the name and date of the battles they were in, who commanded them and who commanded the enemy, also the loss at each engagement. They were actively engaged in the American revolution, and several were taken prisoners at Yorktown. The record is beautifully framed with a neat inscription at the bottom showing by whom it was presented, and is hung up in the orderly room of the Guards at the new drill hall.

OBITUARY.

The death, from consumption, on the 23rd ult., of Capt. C. A. Larue, late of "B" Battery, Royal Gunners School, was a source of deep regret to his relations, brother officers, and his numerous friends, to whom he had endeared himself by a generous and genial nature, combined with talents of no mean order—musician, artist, scholar, soldier, the last would have been in all human probability, a successful career had his fate fallen upon stirring times in European, Asiatic or African battle-fields. He served with credit as an officer in the first Fenian raid, 1868, and subsequently, in 1870, commanded the depot company of Quebec Rifles on service in the North West, acted as Brigade-Major at La Prairie Camp, 1871, after which he joined the Gunnery School at Quebec, obtaining a first class certificate. He was appointed to the permanent staff of "B" Battery in July, 1874, from which he resigned in October, 1878.

The Palliser Gun Experiments.

Yesterday, on the works of Messrs. Eastons and Anderson, Erith Marshes, and in the presence of a large and distinguished company, Sir William Palliser, assisted by Captain Edward Palliser, made some important experiments with a view of ascertaining the ultimate strength of a gun lined with a coiled barrel, 7 1/2 in bore and barely 3 in. thick. In point of fact the experiment was intended to contrast the action of coiled wrought-iron tubes in guns, under exceptionally heavy charges, with the steel-lined guns of the Woolwich pattern—the Thunderer 33-ton gun and the 38-ton gun lately burst at Woolwich being examples of the weapon against which Sir W. Palliser contrasts his system. There were present the attaches of the Russian, German, Austrian and American Embassies, Lord Wharncliffe, Lord C. Beresford, M.P., General Gordon, C.B., General Philipotts, Admiral Boyd, Admiral Hamilton, General Turner, C.B., R.A., Colonel Matland, R.A. Colonel Owen, R.A., Mr. John Palliser, C. M. G., and Major Down.

The gun with which it was proposed to make the experiment was a weapon which has a history. It was a 10-inch cast-iron gun of 84cwt. which served in the Crimea, and received a bruise on its side from a Russian shell and grape shot indentations at the muzzle. It was proved at Woolwich in 1859, served on the Euxine from 1861, and was employed throughout the siege of Sebastopol. It turned to Woolwich in 1866, it was sold to Sir William Palliser in 1866, and by him converted into a 7-inch rifled gun of 85-cwt., and being variously used to try experiments with the steel lining, the steel lining having burst, Sir William Palliser has given it gun three tubes of coiled wrought-iron—the first, that carrying the rifling, being three-quarters of an inch, the second the same, as the third of an inch and a half—the whole encased in the cast-iron shell of the old gun. The gun was in a cell on the marshes, where her muzzle pointed into a mound of earth built round with board. Provision had been made for the recoil by placing an incline behind the gun, up which her carriage would slide, and so utilize her weight for easing her down to the firing point, a spring buffer being placed at the top of the incline to receive what unexpended force might remain when the recoil had carried the weapon so far. The gun is one-eighth of the weight of the 38-ton gun, it was proposed to commence the trials with the proportional double charge which burst the 38-ton gun at Woolwich. The gun was loaded with a rear charge of 13lb. 12oz. of pebble powder and a 8 1/2 lb "Palliser" shot, and a front charge on that of 10lb. 10oz. powder and a 7 1/2 lb. shot—the whole double charge taking up about a third of the barrel's length. The charge was fired with friction tube, and the only result was to send the timber whizzing. The bore was tested but there was no perceptible giving of the metal. The second round consisted of 16lb. of powder and 100 lb. shot for the rear charge, with 11 lb. of powder and an 8 1/2 lb. shot for the front charge. There was more disturbance of the mound, but no great change in the bore of the gun, though the charge was much greater in proportion to that which burst the 38-ton gun. The third round consisted of 18lb. of powder in the rear charge, and a 100lb. shot, with 12lb. of powder and an 8 1/2 lb. shot for the front charge. The result of this was to throw the breech of the gun up on to the roof of the cell; but still the metal had sustained no fracture. The charges of powder for the next round were increased to 20lb. for the rear charge and 16lb. for the front, the projectiles being again 100lb. and 8 1/2 lb. Sand-bags were placed behind at the top of the incline to take the unspent recoil, and the gun was again uninjured, with but little change in the bore. In the fifth round the charge of powder was increased to 22lb. and 14lb., and the charges together occupied rather more than half the tube. When the gun was fired the concussion was so great that the built-up boardings around were blown out, as when the gun was viewed in its dark cell by the light of a candle, was apparently uninjured. The bore could not be tested from the fact that the cell was blocked up by the fallen timbers.

There were no pressure-gauges placed inside the gun—a fact which was regretted by some of the Government Experiment Committee present, the absence of the gauges preventing accurate estimates being obtained as to the actual pressure of the charge, but the fact respecting the bearing qualities of wrought iron was plainly demonstrated.—London Times, March 4, 1880

The Duilio.

Spiez, March 7. One of the 100-ton guns in the aft turret of the Duilio burst yesterday. The inner sheet tube broke completely across. The wrought-iron coiled tubes separated from each other, but were damaged. The breech struck and damaged the back part of the turret, ripping up the backing and opening but not sending it flying. Two officers and seven men were wounded, but nobody was killed. The gun divided into only two pieces. No fragments were broken off. Two of the men inside the turret were scarcely injured. The roof of the turret was torn by a movement of the back plate to which it was fixed. The practice would have been continued but for the probable effect upon the wounded. The Minister of Marine was asked by telegraph whether the practice might continue to-day, and replied in the affirmative. The gun had fired rounds before the accident occurred. The gun has been fired with much heavier charges than those for which it was designed. The Italian officials express undiminished confidence in the system, and are giving public proof of it by continuing the firing. It commenced at 3 o'clock, and two rounds, with battering charges were fired from the fore turret with perfect ease and safety. The machinery of the other turret is in order, but the committee decided not to fire from it.—The London Times.

CONTENTS.

The Utilization of Colonial Forces in Imperial Defence..... Cavalry..... Examples of Loyalty..... Militia Report..... Fatal Explosion of a Shell..... The War Power of Canada..... Dominion Artillery Association..... Regimental News..... The Palliser Gun Experiments..... The Duilio.....