

ceptionally well. The Brass and Bugle Bands were in strong force, and the improvement in both bands was the subject of remark and congratulation by many of the friends of the regiment who lined the streets through which they marched.

The High School Cadets were unfortunately so busy preparing for their concert on Easter Monday that they were unable to turn out as had been intended.

Among recent changes in the 8th the promotion of Sergt.-Major Argue to be Quartermaster may be noted. Mr. Argue has served continuously in the regiment since 1868, having filled the important post of Regimental Sergt.-Major for the past twelve years. He has been succeeded as Sergt.-Major by Col.-Sergt. T. P. Ross from "F" Company, Mr. Argue's old company.

The officers, non-com. officers and men of the 8th intend holding athletic sports in the Drill Hall on the 14th April, when some keen contests may be expected, all the events having been thrown open to members of the Quebec Garrison. Tugs of war, flat and hurdle races, jumping, &c., compose the principal items of the programme.

The 53rd "Sherbrooke" Battalion propose coming to Quebec for the "Queen's." It is to be hoped they will carry out their present intentions, when they will receive a hearty welcome, not only from members of the 8th and other city corps, but from the citizens generally, who are as partial as ever to the "red coats," which they now so seldom see.

N. B. BRIGADE GARRISON ARTILLERY.

The annual meeting of the officers of the New Brunswick Brigade Garrison Artillery was held on Thursday, 26th March, a full attendance of officers being present. Lt.-Col. Armstrong presided.

The regimental and band committees handed in their respective reports for the year, which were received and confirmed, each account showing a balance on hand and all bills paid.

The regimental committee were elected as follows: Captain and Paymaster George F. Smith, Surgeon J. W. Daniel and Captain J. J. Gordon.

The following were elected band committee: Capt. S. D. Crawford, Lieut. Dr. White and Lieut. R. H. Gordon.

The necessity of obtaining drill shed accommodation in Fairville and Carleton without delay was forcibly presented to the meeting by the officers of the batteries there stationed, and it was decided to commence the erection of a drill shed at once.

The officers, as usual, unanimously voted their entire drill pay for the ensuing year for the purposes of the Brigade.

It was decided to furnish the band with white helmets for use when parading not with the corps. Some further additions to the instruments of the band were ordered to be made, and after much pleasure being expressed at the satisfactory state of the finances and creditable state of the band, the meeting adjourned.

A few years ago it was thought that the best iron-clad men-of-war were indestructible. Now the dynamite gun has put the strongest of them at the mercy of a fair marksman. On the whole isn't this a good time to put in practice the teachings of the Prince of Peace, whose nativity was celebrated last week, and abolish war altogether?—*Boston Globe*.

Dr. Justin's efforts are of the utmost interest to gunners, for if he has really succeeded in firing a dynamite shell from a powder gun he has solved an important problem. Modern projectiles are so strong that powder will not explode them, and dynamite has been deemed impracticable. Dr. Justin's success, therefore, means that shells fired from modern ordnance can be exploded.—*New York World*.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

(This paper does not necessarily share the views expressed in correspondence published in its columns, the use of which is freely granted to writers on topics of interest to the Militia.)

D. R. A. "EFFICIENCY."

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—As the season of preparation for the annual competition of the D. R. A. is drawing near, and the regulations to govern that competition will soon be considered, I would like to draw the attention of your readers to a point of interest to all competitors:—

Efficiency.—In the case of a commissioned officer, one of good standing in his corps, or who has retired retaining rank, in the case of a n.c.o. or private one who has performed the last annual drill of his corps, or in cases where no such drill has been ordered within twelve months previous to the meeting of the D. R. A. at which he may be present, been a duly enrolled member of his corps for that period shall be held to be an efficient member of the militia and entitled to compete at the D. R. A. matches.

Now it will be seen from the above regulation that there is much in favour of the officer. As I take it, all that is necessary in his case is to hold a commission; it matters not if he has been appointed a week, or has held his position for years without putting in the annual drills of his corps. But the poor non-com. or private! His length of service, or the regularity with which he has attended the annual drill in the past count for nothing should he, through sickness or some other unavoidable circumstance, be unable to attend camp or perform his annual drills for the present year. Is that right or just? I do not for a moment imagine that it is the intention of the Executive of the Association to discriminate in favour of the officers, but according to the regulations it can plainly be seen that such is the case. Now I think that for the benefit of the Association, as well as the militia force, all ranks should be put on equal footing in respect to their qualification to compete in the D. R. A. matches, and if necessary for the non-coms. and privates to have attended the last annual drill of their corps, it should also be a qualification for the officers. Sufficient trust should be put in the commanding officers of corps to allow them the right to say whether the members of their corps, of whatever rank, are efficient militiamen and eligible to compete or not. Hoping this matter may be satisfactorily arranged, I remain yours, A COMPETITOR.

SONG OF THE BULLET.

By James Whitcomb Riley.

It whizzed and whistled along the blurred .
And red-blent ranks; and it nicked the star
Of an epaulette, as it snarled the word—
War!

On it sped—and the lifted wrist
Of the ensign-dearer stung, and straight
Dropped at his side as the word was hissed—
Hate!

On went the missile—smoothed the blue
Of a jaunty cap and the curls thereof,
Cooing, sweet as a dove might coo—
Love!

Sang—sang on!—sang Hate—sang War—
Sang Love, in sooth, till it needs must cease,
Hushed in the heart it was questing for,
Peace!

IS IT POSSIBLE?

Dr. Gatling has invented a cannon which will throw a projectile ten miles, piercing twenty inches of steel armor at the end of its flight. Unless the doctor can invent a man to sit on the shot and steer it, his invention is not likely to be of much practical use.—*Chicago Mail*.