

Regimental News.

QUEBEC.

Quebec, 20th Feb., 1892. — The 8th "Royal Rifles" have commenced their annual training, and have paraded by half battalions. The right half on Tuesday and the left half on Friday evenings.

On Friday evening, the 12th of February, the regiment had a march out through the streets of the city, headed by their bugle band.

The last regimental orders issued were to the effect that half battalion parades would be discontinued. The next parade will be on Tuesday evening the 1st March.

Extensive preparations are being made in connection with the military sports to be held next week in the drill hall.

I am informed that the annual training of the 9th Battalion will be commenced in the near future. R.M.C. No. 47.

TORONTO.

E. Company, Q.O.R., held their annual company meeting on the night of the 9th instant at the Buglers' rooms, with Capt. Mutton in the chair. The attendance was large, and the statements presented showed the company to be in a most flourishing state; the finances are on a better footing than ever before, and the members with commendable foresight, which might be copied with advantage by other companies, have again set aside a sum towards the furnishing of their quarters in the new shed. The officers and committees for the ensuing year were elected, amid much applause. Secretary, Corporal Blair; treasurer, Lieut. Morton; rifle committee, Privates Watson, T. Keys and Nugent; recruit and clothing committee, Sergeant Lennox, Corporal Edington and Private G. Keys. The company then passed their new constitution and by-laws, which they justly consider a model of brevity and completeness and quite ahead of anything of the kind in the regiment.

With E Company's usual push it was decided to commence recruit drill at once, in order that recruits may be got into the ranks by the time spring drill commences, thus obviating the difficulty which often arises from the ignorance of recruits of battalion drill during the annual 24th May outing. The 30th annual dinner of the company will be held at an early date and the boys are looking forward to one of those enjoyable evenings for which E Company is noted. At this point of the proceedings the chairman called a halt, and the company went into temporary liquidation, or rather vice versa, and turned up smiling and ready for work again in a few minutes.

Votes of thanks were then tendered unanimously to the retiring officers and suitably acknowledged. And Bugle-Major Swift was also thanked for his kindness in granting the use of the buglers' commo-

dious quarters for the meeting, and for company drill. After a most eloquent acknowledgment by the Bugle Major, during which he stated that he had been at great pains to make the new company bugle call for E Company particularly suitable to "Old thirsty-five," the meeting adjourned.

NOTES.

Capt. Knifton's familiar face was much missed amongst us, and nothing but the knowledge that he had got his well-earned step, and that our loss was C Company's gain, would have reconciled us to it.

E Company has more representatives on the Managing Committee of the Sergeants' Mess than any other company in the regiment; so much for our youth, beauty and intelligence.

Col-Sergt. Cauldwell's plea for an old time dinner in place of a smoking party was touching in the extreme and quite won over the smokers from the error of their ways.

Very few companies in the Canadian Militia can equal "E" Co.'s unbroken record of over 30 years efficient service.

DORIC'S GRAND SUCCESS

As intimated in these columns two weeks ago, the members of Doric Lodge, A.F. & A.M., No. 316, G.R.C., held what they pleased to term "A Military Night," on the 18th inst., it being the occasion of their monthly meeting, and only once before in all its history did the Masonic Hall hold such a gathering as was present on this occasion, that being on the occasion of the recent visit of H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught. From the candidate eager for a knowledge of Masonic mysteries to a Grand Lodge Officer, and from a private to a Lieut.-Colonel every rank was represented, and out of 350 members present fully 100 wore, not only the apron and insignia, of this grand order, but wore that apron and that insignia on the grand old uniform that clothes every member of Her Majesty's brave and loyal defenders. Many were those who were carried back to the time when Toronto was a Garrison town, and the spectacle of a Masonic apron on a military uniform was then of no unusual occurrence. The effect was grand and impressive, the various uniforms mingling with the sombre black of the civilian brethren seemed to add a more than usual strikingness to the scene. All arms were represented and on all sides could be seen the sombre coloured Rifleman, the bright scarlet of the line, the gold and blue of the Artillery and the quieter yet handsome uniforms of the Cavalry and the Royal Navy. Up to Thursday night one had no idea of gauging the number of volunteers in Toronto who are members of the Craft, but thanks to the efforts of Capt. J. H. Knifton and the members of Doric Lodge the ball has been started rolling and already we hear of arrangements being made to imitate in various cities throughout the Dominion,

the example set by Doric Lodge at last last Thursday night's meeting.

Lt.-Col. Gibson, 13th Batt., D.G.M., Major J. J. Mason, 13th Batt., G. Sec., headed a deputation of officers of the 13th Batt., and its gallant Colonel endeared himself to all by his remark that he came in his unofficial capacity, and wished to be received with the Hamilton brethren instead of with Grand Lodge honours as was intended. Sergt.-Major Robertson, of the 48th Highlanders, was the candidate of the evening and the chairs were filled by the following:—Capt. J. H. Knifton, Capt. Mutton and Private Qua, Q.O.R.; Capt. Henderson, 48th; Sergt. Major Kennedy, Sergt. Dingwall, Sergt. Pearson, Private Kain, Q.O.R. After the business of the evening had been disposed of, about 250 sat down to the banquet, which lasted from 12 to 3 o'clock, and amongst others to contribute to the programme were Capt. Mutton, Q.O.R.; Major Stoneman, 13th Battalion; ex-Sergt.-Major Sims Richards, 3rd Middlesex; Private Kain; Mr. H. Simpson, ventriloquial sketches; Petty Officer Aronsberg, R.N.; and many others.

Previous to the banquet, it might be noted, the officers' and sergeants' mess dinner calls were sounded by Sergt. Butcher, C Co., I.S.C., and it was amusing to note how speedily these calls were answered by the military brethren, much to the disgust, no doubt, of their civilian brothers who were less prompt to realize or recognize the call. It affords a striking example of how slow many are to forget mere bugle sounds, no matter what time has elapsed since last heard. The members of Doric are indebted to Private Percy, Q.O.R., and member of Ashar Lodge, for the very able manner in which he performed his part of the ceremony. No less than eight sergeants from C Co., I.S.C., were present, while Hamilton sent a contingent of 10, nine from 13th Bn., and one from Hamilton Field Battery.

Among those present were Lieut.-Col. Gibson, 13th; Major Mason, 13th; Major Stoneman, 13th; Major Elliott, G.G.B.G., Markham; Major Higler, 22nd; Colonel Wayling, 12th; Captain Zealand, 13th; Lieut. Henning, 13th; Lieut. Lester, 13th; Lieut. Witton, 13th; Lieut. Waddell, 13th; Lieut. Pain, 13th; Capt. Ball, 22nd; Capt. Atkinson, 39th; Capt. Hendrie, Hamilton Field Battery; Lieut.-Col. Gray, Brigade Staff; Capt. J. K. Leslie, 12th; Capt. Furnival, 12th; Major Manley, 10th; Surgeon Ryerson, 10th; Capt. McDougall, I.S.C.; Lieut. Currie, 12th; Capt. Laws, 36th; Major Sankey, Q.O.R.; Petty Officer Armstrong; Lieut. Wyatt, Q.O.R.; Capt. Lee, Q.O.R.; Lieut. Lloyd, Q.O.R.; Lieut. E.A. Macdonald; Sgt.-Maj. Cox, 10th; Staff-Sergt. Mitchell, 10th; Surg. Ross, Q.O.R.; Capt. A. Henderson, 34th; Dr. Elliott, Toronto Field Battery; Capt. Currie, 48th; Staff-Sergt. Harp, 48th; Capt. Thompson, 12th; eight