

machinery. There will be twelve 6-inch quick-firing guns, sixteen 12-pound quick-firing guns, and five torpedo tubes, three submerged, for 18-inch torpedos. The big guns will be mounted on barbets. These vessels are to have about four feet more freeboard than the Royal Sovereign and her sisters.

In 1488 Henry VII. built the Royal

Harry, considered to be the beginning of the modern English navy. This vessel was of 1,200 tons.

The Naval and Military Record says:

It seemed to come as a surprise upon the House of Commons on Tuesday that the Queen is going to confer decorations upon non-commissioned officers of the volunteers. The Secretary for War announced the gracious proposal of her Majesty. It is, of course the national sequel of a similar honour conferred upon the commissioned officers last year, and the same conditions as to long service and meritorious conduct will attach to the decoration of both commissioned and non-commissioned ranks. The statement was received with great approval by the House, and when Mr. Campbell Bannerman resumed his seat, there was a loud burst of cheering. The nature of the decoration has not yet been decided upon.

It is surprising how much ignorance is displayed by those who have criticised the appointment of the Duke of Connaught to the Aldershot command. There never was any question of Lord Roberts's appointment. Lord Roberts did not wish for employment on his return from India, having been recommended by his medical advisers to seek rest after his years of service in the East; and he would not have accepted the Aldershot charge under any circumstances, even had he been eligible, which he was not. Lord Roberts has been visiting his father's old regiment the 1st Battalion Royal Munster Fusiliers, at Dublin. He was born in the regiment when it was the 1st Bengal Fusiliers, his father, the late General Sir Abraham Roberts, having served in it for many years, and afterwards held its colonelcy until his death in 1873. —The World.

A Newcastle correspondent says that the contract for one of the new battle-ships for the Royal Navy is about to be placed with the Elswick firm—Sir W. Armstrong, Mitchell & Co.—and will be 4,000 tons heavier than the ill-fated Victoria, which they built. The specifications contain several important changes in regard to the surplus buoyancy of the vessel. In speed and power of armament the new war-ship, which will cost about £1,000,000, will, it is said, be unsurpassed by any armour-clad vessel afloat. It is understood that she will be named the Victoria.

Echoes of the ONTARIO MATCHES

Major Macdonald was a "prood" man, not only because of his own aggregate in the Tait-Brassey, but also because his team of Highlanders won third prize in the battalion match.

The statistical office was run in good style, and delays in posting up results were not due to any fault of theirs.

Capt. McMicking, of the 44th Battalion, was the hero of the meeting with his magnificent aggregate of 98 in the Tait-Brassey. This score is a record in any match in the Dominion with the Snider, the scores made in the Military Rifle League competition excepted. He was freely congratulated by everyone on his score, which is not likely to be equaled for a long time, if ever.

In the Walker match two possibles were made at 500 yards, Lt. Gilchrist, of 1st B. F.A. and Pte. Morrison, of the Guards, doing the trick. A protest was lodged against the score made by the winner, Lt. Gilchrist, in this competition, on the ground that his rifle did not have the requisite 6 lb. pull. The Executive however, overruled the protest on technical grounds.

Staff Sgt. McVittie, 10th R. G., did some great shooting at the meeting. One day he put on three possibles in succession, one each in the 500 and 600 yards, extra series, Martini-Henry, and another at 500 yards in the Gibson match.

Lt. Davidson, of the Q.O.R., who was so severely injured last Queen's Birthday in an accident, was at the ranges on crutches. He competed in the Gibson, and made 53.

The annual meeting of the association was held in the competitors' building on the grounds during the meeting, there being a large attendance. Lt. Col. Jones, of the Dufferin Rifles, presided. The members of the council for the ensuing year were elected as follows:

First Military District—Lt. Col. White, 30th Batt.; Mr. John Crowe, Guelph; Mr. Geo. Sleeman, Guelph; Major Geo. Hayes, 7th Fus.

Second Military District—Lt. Col. Jones, Dufferin Rifles; Major Delemere, Q.O.R.; Lt. Elliott, 12th Batt.; Lt. Pain, 13th Batt.

Third Military District—Capt. Russell, 45th Batt.; Lt. A. D. Cartwright, 47th Batt.; Major S. Hughes, 45th Batt.; Capt. Dennistoun, 57th Batt.

Fourth Military District—Lt. Col. Mason, 13th Batt.; Captain Sutherland, 43rd Batt.; Major Hodgins, G. G. F. G.; Maj. Wright, 43rd Batt.

The following were elected to represent the association in the Council of the Dominion Rifle Association: Col. C. S. Gizowski, A.D.C. to the Queen; Lt. Col. Macdonald, 1st B.F.A.; Major Mason, 13th Batt.; Capt. Mercer, Q.O.R.; Maj. S. Hughes, 45th Batt.; Lt. Col. Anderson, 43rd Batt.; and Capt. Macdonald, Q.O.R.

The following were appointed to select

a team of eight at the D.R.A. matches: Lt. Col. Anderson, R. L.; Major S. Hughes, 45th Batt.; Capt. Bruce, 10th R. G.; Lt. Elliott, 12th Battalion.

A recommendation was made that the Snider ammunition to be used at the matches should be of one year's issue, the same to apply to the Martini-Henry matches.

On the suggestion of Lt. Col. Anderson the meeting recommended that a new firing point be built in the rear of the 500 yards' range and another in front of the six hundred yards range, so as to allow two ranges of the same distance to be used simultaneously.

It was also decided to recommend that a new match in the extra series or a regular match be given at 400 yards, with a reduced size of bull's eye and inner.

Lt. Col. Hood wanted to know if the association would not in future have the matches shot with Martini-Henry rifles, instead of the old Snider, a query that was greeted with emphatic approval. It was decided by a standing vote to recommend that this be done.

It was resolved on motion that next year's matches begin at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, instead of 1 p.m. on Monday, and last three days.

It was also decided that the military matches be fired on the afternoon of the last day.

Another recommendation that met with general approval was that in military team matches the teams be composed of four or five men, instead of six as at present. This is now done at Ottawa, and, it was claimed, would result in more entries being received from country battalions.

The meeting then adjourned.

A meeting of the council was held at 4.30 p.m., when Majors Macdonald, Hughes, Bruce and Mason, and Capt. Bruce were appointed to recommend a name for the consideration of the council, as its president. The four vice-presidents were re-elected, as were the auditors and secretary, Lt. Col. Gravely, district paymaster, Toronto, was elected treasurer, and Lt. Col. Jones, Major Macdonald and Major Bruce were appointed on the Finance Committee.

The Profit of Rifle Shooting.

The Volunteer Record has been calling the well-known London publication, Tit-Bits to account for some rather absurd references to rifle shooting. The Record prints a very good article in reply to one in Tit-Bits on the profits of rifle shooting. Our contemporary says truly of Tit-Bits' article: It is a fair sample of much that the public are treated to when rifle shooting is written of by those who know nothing about it. Take the following:—"Rifle shooting, when systematically prosecuted, is a very profitable occupation." The writer's knowledge of Bisley may be gathered from his mention of it as the "International" Meeting. He says that nearly £10,000 was offered for competition at the N.R.A. Meeting; but he fails to enlighten his readers on the important point as to where the money came from. He probably does not know, and has never