

taking a course at the school, and which on this occasion seemed doubly interesting and acceptable after the interval elapsing since last having the opportunity of hearing him. The D. A. G. has the faculty of dealing with things as they are. He thoroughly understands the militia, is cognizant of its wants and draw-backs and is anxious that its efficiency should be increased. As the officers of the district come to know him better they will be disposed to second more strongly his efforts. As far as the 32nd is concerned the officers are thoroughly in sympathy with him, and there is to-day in the regiment a stronger desire to attain a high state of efficiency than ever existed before.

In the evening the D. A. G. accompanied by most of the officers present attended the concert given in Rothwell's Opera Hall by the 32nd band, and although for the last few years proud of their regimental band the performance which they had the pleasure of listening to, surprised them by its excellence and the great improvement which had been made under the training of Bandmaster Fisher. Quartermaster Robertson, the mayor of the town, occupied the chair. The opening piece by the band was in imitation of a train starting, and going at full speed and stopping, and so naturally was it executed that nothing was left to be imagined; a vast amount of choice music was thrown in. A number of instrumental duets and solos by members of the band, a choice overture by the Rife family orchestra, several marvellous performances on the violin by Master C. F. Fox, some choice songs by Mr. Stuart, of Chesley, and Miss Kerr, of Walkerton, completed the programme, while the band played a selection representing the forge in the forest and repeated it by request, that was a striking example of the power and capabilities of music. While the 32nd can keep Bandmaster Fisher at the helm of their musical contingent they need have nothing to fear.

Winnipeg.

I noticed in your last issue that our D.A.G. had made complaint about the 90th outfit. I had taken the liberty to give an opinion in the same paper, and now that the "head of the house" has gone into the question we at the bottom of the table may be excused for keeping on playing the same tune in the same key, until we get our Little Black Imps—you will pardon the milder term, as we are not used to strong language—properly equipped. We do not desire to boast of our boys—they are no better than others; but they are always willing, and it is a shame to keep them so poorly outfitted.

I send you the result of last Wednesday's Morris tube contest. It will be noticed that the scores are being gradually improved. We would like to see a match arranged with the "Vics." Let some of those Montrealers arrange matters and send up a challenge, name a date, five or eight men a side, and publish the result in following issue of the GAZETTE. No doubt the genial Colonel of the 90th would exert himself to pull the match off.

The city of Winnipeg has assumed its normal shape and colour since the close of the Bonspeil. McDiarmid, one of F Company's best shots, was in the winning rink for the Tucket Trophy. "Jim" is the proud owner of a fine gold medal for his prowess with the "broom."

Lieut. R. C. Brown, of Portage la Prairie (91st Bn.), has had a marvellous recovery from inflammation. He had said good-bye to his friends, and was cold to the hips, and could hardly speak, but being moved by his attendant to an easier position, the blood flowed afresh, a stimulant excited action, and "Brown" is still with us. Many will remember him as one of the Manitoba team to Ottawa last year. He is a fine fellow and a capital shot. It would be welcome could we relate such a recovery for Lieut. Smith, of the 90th. His condition is critical, and the doctors give little hope for his life.

At the third match in the Morris tube competition there was a very good turn out, and great interest was taken in the match. Private Inman, of "C" Company, led up to shortly before the finish, when he was tied by Sergeant Bush, of "D" Company, whose score was the winning one, he having made the best score at the long ranges. As this competition settles the classification of the shots they will be reclassified for the next competition. There has been a marked improvement since the commencement, the shooting having improved fifteen per cent. D company promises to be the coming shooting company of the battalion; they have made not only the highest scores, but the best aggregates up to date. Following were some of the scores:—Highest score, Sgt. Bush, D Co., 55. First Class—Pte. Inman, C Co., 55; Corp. White, F Co., 53; Sgt. McKay, C Co., 51; Sgt. Lamb, A Co., 49. Second Class—Pte. Eadie, D Co., 49; Sgt. Allerdyce, F Co., 43. Third Class—Corp. Beckett, D Co., 52; Pte. Walker, F Co., 49; Pte. Brown, E Co., 48; Bandsman Tennant, 47; Pte. Thomas, D Co., 47; Pte. McDonald, F Co., 47.

It is stated in the *Free Press* that Staff-Sergt. Mitchell will not be able to go home with the Canadian rifle team this year. This is to be regretted as it will leave Manitoba without a representative. I must

practise myself and some day Manitoba may have the honour of sending

BUCKSHOT.

Toronto.

The old brigade of the North-West contingent of the year 1885 will hold a dinner on March 28th. The dinner will be held as an anniversary of the day on which the brigade was called out to quell the uprising among the Metis.

Incorporation will shortly be asked for the proposed Military Institute. The project is being actively worked up.

The members of H Co., Q.O.R., held their annual meeting on Monday evening in a room in the European hotel building, King street west, kindly granted for the occasion by Mr. Morton Keachie, the proprietor. There was a good attendance. Captain Gunther took the chair, and he was supported by Captain Mowat. The financial and other reports read showed the affairs of the company to be on a sound basis and the reports were adopted. It was agreed to give a smoking party some evening before the commencement of spring drill. The election of committees resulted as follows: General committee, Col.-Sergt. World, Sergt. Boyd and Pte McGee; Finance, Sergt. Bogert, Ptes. Greene and Macnamara; Rifles, Col.-Sergt. World, Corpl. Argles and Pte. Paffard; Recruiting, Sergt. Boyd, Ptes. Gilbert, Welsh and Brown. The secretary-treasurer, Pte. S. A. Greene, was re-elected. At the close of the business the meeting resolved itself into a social gathering, and a pleasant hour was spent.

THE QUEEN'S OWN SERGEANTS' MESS.

The seventh annual dinner of the Sergeants' Mess proved like all its predecessors a great success. About 100 sat down to the dinner, which was under the management of a board composed of Col.-Sergt. Kennedy, Q.M. Sergt. T. W. Burns, Sergts. George, A. M. Burns, Caldwell, McMaster, Vicars, Pearson. Acting Sergt.-Major McKell presided, and amongst the guests were Lieut.-Col. Otter, D.A.G., Lieut.-Cols. G. T. Denison, R. B. Hamilton, Gray (B.M.), and Miller, Rev. Mr. Lloyd, Major Sankey, Mr. Warring Kennedy, Capt. Macdonald, Q.-Master Heakes, Dr. Ross, Capt. Mutton and Greene; J. Nunn (Pres. Army and Navy Veterans), and many others. Regrets were read from Sir Alex. Campbell, Sir Fred. Middleton, Col. Gzowski, the Mayor of Toronto, Lieut.-Col. F. C. Denison, Lieut.-Col. J. M. Gibson, Lieut.-Col. Gillmor and others. The first toast, that of "The Queen," was drunk with usual honours.

"The D.A.G." was responded to by Col. Otter, who complimented the regiment on its efficiency, discipline and general bearing, and alluded to the fact that on the late field day the members of the Queens' Own had no extraneous assistance afforded them in the matter of locomotion. From all parts of Canada he was glad to hear that his old corps still maintained its supremacy.

Colour-Sergt. Kennedy proposed the toast of "Our Commanding Officer," and Sergt. Cooper "The Canadian Militia," answered by Lieut.-Cols. Gray and Miller. Sergt. Hart proposed "Imperial Federation" in a happy speech. The toast was responded to by Lieut.-Col. G. T. Denison in a very vigorous style. He said that any person observing the current of opinion on the other side of the border must be struck with the fact that the leading men of the United States were moving in the direction of annexing Canada—by force of arms if necessary. The only thing which deterred them from present action was the British ironclads. What, he asked, was the object of the Government of the States in voting \$349,000,000 to provide a navy? Did this not look ominous? He argued that Imperial Federation would be beneficial to Canada, and to England also. He predicted in the near future a bad time for the United States, condemned in no unmeasured language the traitors in Canada who were belittling their country and trying to persuade the people on the other side of the border that the people of Canada were pining for annexation, and appealed to the members of the Q.O.R. to support Imperial Federation, and be loyal to their Queen and country.

Major Sankey and Mr. Warring Kennedy responded to "Our Guests," both complimenting the Sergeants' Mess. "The n.c.o. of other corps" was responded to by Sergt.-Major Cox, of the Grenadiers. The gathering dispersed about two o'clock.

A QUEEN'S OWN SHOOTING TROPHY.

Capt. Pellatt, of the Queen's Own Rifles, has presented a valuable trophy, valued at \$200, to be competed for with the rifle. The competition will be open to all active members of the Queen's Own Rifles who have performed not less than fifty per cent. of the regimental drills for the season in which competition is entered for, or for the time they are regularly enrolled members of the battalion. The prize will be awarded to the officer, non-com. officer or man making the ten highest scores during the season's shooting, at the regular battalion practices, with long or short Snider rifles, or any rifle authorized by the Government and actually in use by the Queen's Own Rifles as the regular arm in the