

they have succeeded in winning the battalion silver bugle, competed for by teams from each company. To further improve the average shooting the company have opened a shooting gallery above their recreation rooms and find the practice with the Morris tubes to be beneficial. The company still retains in its ranks 27 Northwest men of the 32 who received medals at the presentation last May. Two of the retired men have become honorary members. Sergt. Lostford Woolrich was unanimously chosen by the company as 2nd lieutenant, Sergt. Dixon having been offered the position but declined to serve. The captain was requested to recommend Sergt. Woolrich's appointment. Private Stanley H. Romans was elected a lance corporal, and 10 ice was given to the corporals and lance-corporals that Sergt. Woolrich's place would be filled by the one among them passing the best examination sometime during the winter. The committee of management elected were: Lieut. C. J. McKie, Lieut. Woolrich, Sergt. L. Dixon, Lance-Corpl. E. Shaw, Pte. C. W. McLeod. Capt. Cunningham was elected treasurer and Sergt. Dixon secretary. The meeting decided to hold a sleigh drive and to ask the co-operation of the 1st Scottish company.--*Mail*.

Peterborough.—The annual dinner of No. 4 company of the 57th battalion was held at the Morgan House, Peterborough, on Wednesday evening last week. A bountiful spread was provided, and everything passed off happily. Among those who made speeches in reply to the toasts to the several ranks were Lt.-Col. Rogers, Major Bell, Capt. Birdsell, Lieut. Hill, Sergt. Distin, Corp. Wright, Corp. Kay. The other companies were spoken for by Messrs. Geal, Kirby and Seofield. "The Ladies" brought gallant responses from Messrs. Seofield, Geal, Wright, Kirby, Hill and Dickson. Messrs. Hamilton and Geal put in a good word for the bank clerks; Lieut. Hill, formerly of the cavalry, spoke for that corps, and the toast list was brought to a close with that of "the host and hostess," responded to by Mr. Morgan.

Ottawa. A meeting of the members of the Governor-General's Foot Guards was held on Friday evening last in the orderly room of the drill hall, for the purpose of organizing a regimental snowshoe club. There was a large attendance, including representatives from each company. Lieut.-Col. J. P. Macpherson presided, and Sergt. J. B. Taylor acted as secretary. The chairman having expressed his desire to see such a club formed, and pointed out the benefit to be derived by the regiment from having its members thus kept together and interested in each other during the winter months, it was unanimously decided that a snowshoe club should be at once established. The subscription fee was fixed at the nominal sum of 50 cents. It was decided to invite Major General Middleton to become patron of the club, and the election of officers was proceeded with as follows: Honorary president, Lt.-Col. Macpherson; president, Capt. Walter; vice-presidents, Major Todd and Capt. Toller; secretary-treasurer, P. B. Taylor; captain, Capt. and Adjutant Hodgins; whipper-in, Staff-Sergt. Newby; Committee—Bandmaster Bonner, Col.-Sergts. Ross and Davis, Corpals. Nash and May and Ptes. MacCraken and Heinrichs. There is a representative of each company on the committee. With the excellent choice of officers which has been made, the club ought to be a great success. The first tramp will shortly take place.

The Rifles' snowshoe club inaugurated the season's tramping on Monday evening, when after a good bit of exercise, the Coffee House was resorted to for supper, and some ten or twelve members received the customary "bouncing" incident to joining the club.

Sergt. P. B. Taylor of the G.G.F.G., is likely to receive a commission in that regiment shortly. Sergt. Taylor held that rank in Capt. Todd's company of Sharpshooters.

Toronto.—Col. Miller, the commander of the Q. O. Rifles is reported to have handed the regiment over to his probable successor Major Allan.

K company, being the Toronto University company of the Queen's Own Rifles, gave a concert on the 14th, in Convocation hall, University college. A large audience was present, and an excellent musical and literary programme was rendered, in which the University Glee club took part. Miss Geikie and Dr. A. J. Geikie, Mr. Mercer, Miss Gunther, Messrs. J. L. and W. A. Geddes, Miss Berryman, Mr. Walter Sparkes and Mr. W. Restall contributed musical numbers, and Lieut.-Col. Denison and Mr. Gorme gave readings. During the intermission Mrs. Blake presented the prizes won at the recent rifle match to the successful marksmen. The students were in high spirits and added to the enjoyment of the evening, and all the arrangements, including the programme cards, were well executed. The following is a list of the prize winners:—

Nursery match—1 Lieut. Mercer, 2 Pte. J. H. Senkler, 3 Pte. Harrison, 4 Pte. F. H. Moss.

Aggregate match—1 Corp. Mustard, 2 Pte. T. E. Elliott, 3 Pte. J. A. Duff.

Trophy—Pte. T. E. Elliott. The trophy is a bronze horse, presented by several ex-members of the company. It was competed for for the first time last year, and was won by Sergt. Cronyn. If won by anyone three times it becomes his property.

General match—1 Pte. T. E. Elliott, 2 Sergt. Hamilton, 3 Sergt. Crooks, 4 Pte. Redden, 5 Pte. A. G. Smith, 6 Corporal Mustard, 7 Lieut. Mercer, 8 Pte. E. C. Senkler.

Ex-members' match—Ex-Sergt. May.

Range prizes—200 yards, Sergt. Crooks; 400 yards, Sergt. Hamilton; 500 yards, Pte. A. G. Smith.

Winnipeg.—The annual meeting of the 90th battalion club was held Wednesday night in the club rooms. President Watson in the chair. The officers elected for the year were as follows:—

President, Major Boswell; 1st vice-president, Sergt.-Major Watson; 2nd vice-president, Corp. Mitchell; secretary-treasurer, Lieut. Broughall.

Executive committee—Bandmaster Johnston and Sergeant Bailey; A company, Sergeant Ridler, Privates Quigley and Lamb; B company, Sergt. Timewell, Corporal McMillan, Private Swan; C company, Sergeant Morgan, Corporal Cameron, Private Barrett; D company, Sergeant Edie, Corporal Bowden, Private Lore; E company, Color-Sergeant Dickson, Lance-Corporal Munroe and Private Davis; F company, Sergeants Mount and Smith, Private Russell.

The receipts for the past year were \$693.90, and the expenditures were \$599.95, leaving a balance of \$93.95. To this was added the proceeds received from "The Tricky Troubadour," \$701.65. The club was therefore placed financially in a good position for the coming year. It was decided to make arrangements for offering a rifle trophy for team competition, and to organize a gymnasium for the winter.

After the business was transacted Lieut.-Col. MacKeand took the chair, the principal business of the meeting being the discussion of the proposed regimental trip to the east next summer. Lt. Broughall being called upon, briefly outlined the scheme, which was that a special train should be chartered to take them down and back, the round trip to take about fourteen days. Toronto and Montreal were to be visited, and there were to be a couple of days to allow members of the battalion to visit friends. Letters from Montreal and Toronto stated that were the 90th to visit those cities and

give some kind of an amateur entertainment, they would be patronized by crowded houses, and in this way the expenses of the trip would be greatly lessened. The lacrosse team would go along and would play matches with eastern teams. A discussion participated in by many present followed, nearly all the speakers being heartily in favor of the idea. Lt.-Col. MacKeand was finally called upon to give his views. He said that nothing would personally give him greater pleasure than to head the 90th on a visit to Toronto and Montreal, where he was sure they would be heartily welcomed by their comrades. But before deciding whether to go a great many matters of detail had to be attended to. In the first place new equipment was absolutely necessary. Sometimes he said he felt ashamed of the Militia department for letting the 90th remain so long attired in the east off uniforms of a pre-Adamite generation. (Laughter.) They could not go down east in their present uniforms. He suggested that a committee should be struck to examine into the feasibility of the scheme, and report at the next regimental meeting. A committee consisted of Lieut.-Col. MacKeand, Capt. Worsno, Lieut. Froughall and Sergt. Shera was accordingly appointed.

Sarnia.—Dr. Hartmann, late bandmaster of the 27th Batt., and his family have gone to Toronto, where he has accepted the position of instructor to the Massey Manufacturing Company's band.

No. 7 company is continuing to drill once a week through the winter. The members are talking of giving a military entertainment in the spring, under the auspices of the staff officers of the battalion. The entertainment will consist of drill exhibitions, tableaux, martial songs, etc., offering an entirely novel attraction to Sarnia, and one which is looked forward to with interest. The company has of late received a number of new members into its ranks and promises to be one of the finest companies in the service.

News Notes.

The unsettled state of affairs in Europe at the present time makes any information respecting the strength of the armies and navies of the several great powers of special interest. These are so immense that a contest involving any considerable number of them would be a titanic one, the masses of troops, dwarfing even the legions of Xerxes. The following shows the score:—

	Army.	Ironclads.	Marine.
Russia.....	2,200,000	38	28,358
Germany.....	2,650,000	27	26,000
Austria.....	1,103,819	12	9,764
Turkey.....	595,000	15	30,000
Great Britain.....	653,772	74	58,000
France.....	2,500,000	47	50,000
Italy.....	2,142,000	18	30,000

It may be noted that Italy possesses the six most powerful ironclads in the world.

The cable brings word of the death at the ripe age of 86 years, of Horatio Ross, one of the best examples of a sportsman and marksman which Great Britain has had for a half century past. Speaking of his death and his work, a writer recently said: "He was not only a great hunter himself, but was the father of great rifle shots. Hercules, Colin and Edward, his sons, are all more or less renowned for their prowess with the rifle, and the name of Edward Ross has of late years almost eclipsed that of his father, for he not only won the Queen's prize, but alone holds the gold and silver medals of the National rifle association. Hercules Ross won the Cambridge cup, and was the champion shot of India for three successive years; while in 1863 Mr. Ross and his three sons formed four of the Scotch eight in the International challenge match for the Elcho shield. But stranger still, the expert use of the rifle is not merely confined to men of the family, but extends in a remarkable degree to some of the ladies. Mrs. Horatio Ross, *nee* Miss Macrae, has in her day been a splendid shot with her rifle, and Mrs. Colin Ross is scarcely less dexterous with her gun. Mr. Ross became a leader of volunteers in 1859, going as a pupil to the school of musketry at Hythe, and seeking instruction from General Hay in the art of military rifle shooting. These two crack shots past many an afternoon together on the 'shingle' in friendly contest at the experimental target, and many were the bullseyes implanted by them, firing standing at the 600 yds. distance. It is now more than half a century since Mr. Ross astonished the world as a steeplechase rider on his famous horse Clinker, against Capt. Douglas on Radical, over Leicestershire; and indeed, steeplechase riding, as now practiced, may be said to date from that event, it being the first steeplechase on record. In former days, when duelling was in vogue, Mr. Ross was accounted the best pistol shot in Europe, yet such was his consideration for the feelings of others that he never had a serious quarrel. But as a proof of his dexterity he once killed 20 swallows before breakfast with a duelling pistol. As a pigeon shot he was not a whit less noticeable. At the Red House, in a match with Lord MacDonald, he killed 52 pigeons out of 53 shots at 30 and 35 yards rise. In 1828 he won the Red House club cup, scoring 79 out of his 80 birds at 30 yards rise. Nor will it be merely or entirely by his unrivalled skill and dexterity with the fowling piece, the rifle and the pistol that Mr. Ross will be remembered in the sporting world. His success as a steeplechase rider has already been referred to; but it remains to add that he likewise in his day proved himself an expert yachtsman, while his feats as an athlete in walking are remarkable. He walked from the River Dee to Inverness, a distance of ninety-seven miles on one occasion without stopping; again, after a laborious contest in shooting partridges with Colonel Anson in Norfolk, when the latter retired from sheer exhaustion, Mr. Ross was so fresh that he challenged any of the bystanders to walk to London, a distance of seventy miles. Mr. Ross lived in Wyvis Lodge, near Wyvis, a mountain in the Highlands of Scotland. The walls teem with trophies of the chase in the shape of deer heads, etc. The sideboard in the diningroom groans under the weight of the numberless prizes won by his rifle at the butts. Among these are the Wimbledon cup, only competed for by winners; the Association cup and the Duke of Cambridge cup. In 1867, at Cambridge, after two long days' shooting at 900, 1,000 and 1,100 yards, 15 shots at each range each day, he—then in his sixty-sixth year—vanquished some thirty of the best rifleshoots of the kingdom and added thereby the Cambridge cup to his collection. For a short time he sat in Parliament. The sport, there, however, was not to his taste."—*Forest and Stream*.

The Chinese government are rapidly augmenting their fleet. Ships are being built in England and in other countries on the latest improved lines of construction. The *Marquis Tseng*, late Chinese minister to this country, who has been appointed First Lord of the Admiralty in China, has arrived at Peking and taken over the duties of his new office.