

The annual meeting of the officers of the Royal Grenadiers was held in the ante-room of the drill shed on Monday, Jan. 17th, the commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. Mason, in the chair. The following committees for 1894 were appointed: Regimental, Major Bruce, (president) Capt. Gosling and Lieut. Stinson; Band, Major Hay (president), Capt. Irving (secretary-treasurer), and Lieutenant Sweetman; Mess, Capt. Cantelon (president) Assistant-Surgeon King, and Lieut. Lehmann; Rifle, Major Bruce (president) Capt. Harston, and Lieut. Boyd; Entertainment, Capt. Gibson (president), Capt. Mackay, Capt. Tassie, Lieut. Chadwick, Lieut. Wills, Lieut. Bain, and Lieut. Smith.

HAMILTON.

It would take something worse than a blizzard to keep the members of company G, Thirteenth battalion, away from their annual dinner. This enjoyable affair was held at Newport's last night. The volunteers cheerfully waded through snow drifts rather than miss the event, and in spite of the storm there was a good muster. Capt. Mewburn presided. Seated near him were Major McLaren, Surgeon Griffin, Lt. Logie and Capt. Tidswell. Mayor Stewart and Lt. Witton arrived after the council meeting and were warmly welcomed. The former organized company G at the time of the Riel rebellion in 1885. When he entered the banquet hall the boys sang "He's a Daisy Just Now." Col. Sergt. Stewart and Sgt. Kilgour occupied the vice-chairs. The supper served by Newport was unusually good.

Regrets were read from Col. Gibson, Col. Moore, Major Stuart and the officers of the Grenadiers and Queen's Own, Toronto.

The toast list was short, there being only five proposed, as follows:

The Queen.

Commanding Officer and Staff—Major McLaren, Surgeon Griffin.

The Mayor and Corporation—Mayor Steart.

Officers of Company G—Capt. Mewburn and Lt. Logie.

Non Commissioned Officers—Col. Sgt. Stewart, Segts. Kilgour and Scott.

Major McLaren said that any company choosing such a night for its annual dinner should not expect the staff to come. He was glad to be present, and made an apology for the absence of Col. Gibson and Col. Moore. He talked about the recent competition, and said that while the battalion did not win the cup, it made more points than it did in 1892, and the members should not be discouraged. In most subjects company G did well, but it was deficient in shooting, and he urged the members to pay more attention to it in future. He referred to the fact that the officers had obtained the highest possible marks. He announced that the annual entertainment would be held about the first week in May.

Mayor Stewart made a capital speech. It was the first company dinner he had attended, and he hoped the officers would always do him the honor of inviting him. His thoughts went back to the old days when he was captain of the company. They were the happiest days he had ever

spent and he never would forget them. He spoke of the forming of the company, and said he never had any trouble in getting recruits. He had men who made it a point never to be absent from drill. He said many kind things about the battalion, being always pleased to hear of its success.

There was an abundance of musical talent in the company. Songs were sung by Capt. Tidswell, Sgt. Major Athawes, Lt. Logie, Sgt. Major Higgins, Pte. Shaw, Pte. McDermott and the Silver League Colored quartette. Pte. Needham played a piano solo, and Pte. Fitzgerald gave a mouth organ solo.—Spectator, Feb. 13th.

NEWS FROM THE SERVICE PAPERS.

The Austrian military authorities are still extremely reticent concerning the mechanism of the new Salvator mitrailleuse, or quick-firing machine gun; but Reuter's special correspondent at Vienna learns that the firing trials made at the Vienna Arsenal have been reported upon as highly satisfactory. The weapon has been adopted by the Service, and only one hundred pieces are now ready for distribution. The gun is not intended for use in the field, as in the case of the English Maxim and Nordenfiet machine guns. The new mitrailleuse will be mounted stationary on the outworks encircling important fortresses. It is only half the weight of the Maxim, and its average rate of discharge is about the same—three hundred rounds per minute, with a maximum of three hundred and twenty. The diameter of the bore is eight millimeters, being similar to that of the Mannlicher repeating rifle now in use in the Austrian Service. The barrel is not encased in a water jacket, and twelve hundred continuous rounds can be fired before it shows the effects of excessive heat. The cartridges are supplied, as in the Nordenfiet, from a large "hopper" fixed above the firing chamber. The gun is fired by means of an ordinary trigger with trigger grip, and a recoil spring supplies the automatic action. But the principal point of interest in respect of which the new gun differs from the mechanism of similar weapons now in use in other countries is the oscillating pendulum regulating the speed of fire. There are two firing commands with the Maxim, "Single fire" and "Continuous fire." The discharge is regulated by the turning of the crank handle. The single fire is as the fire from an ordinary repeating rifle, while the continuous represents the most rapid discharge of which the machine is capable. With the Salvator mitrailleuse, however, the great advantage is gained of sustaining a moderately heavy discharge of thirty, fifty, to one hundred rounds per minute, and increasing it by means of a faster oscillation of the pendulum to three hundred, when a dangerous phase of the attack has been developed. The saving of ammunition thereby is enormous. The mechanism is said to be very simple, and throughout the trial no jams were recorded. The Austrian military authorities naturally congratulate themselves on the excellence of this new invention.

It is reported that Russian Cavalry manoeuvres on an imposing scale are to be held in the spring in order to test the theories as to the employment of Cavalry in masses held by General Gourko, who commanded the Cavalry manoeuvres in Poland last year, when some 35,000 horsemen were in the field for a period of four weeks. General Gourko, far from sharing the general view that the days of Cavalry charges are gone for ever, holds strongly to the opinion that in time of war Cavalry should not only operate as an auxiliary force, but that it should act independently of Infantry, and aided solely by Artillery, in masses, either with the view of preparing victory, or to gathering in its fruits. In the forthcoming manoeuvres, the whole of the Cavalry belonging to the military districts of Warsaw, Vienna, and Keilf will be engaged to a total strength of some 150,000 horsemen. The place of the manoeuvres, which has been approved by the Czar, has not leaked out, but it is known that the intention is to study the double role of Cavalry fighting mounted and on foot, and that the manoeuvres will be attended by the Czar and by numbers of officers of high rank, including the commanders of all the military districts.

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The Admiralty have now so far completed their new shipbuilding programme that they have placed the orders for the new 50-ton guns, whose work upon the armament fittings is rapidly progressing in all the dockyards. The special programme is to consist of the building of eight first-class battle-ships similar to the Majestic, at a total of £7,000,000, for which special provision will be made.

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In connection with the military manoeuvres which have been going on round Calcutta for some days past, an interesting experiment was made in order, according to the Times, to test the security of the port against a maritime attack. The gun-boat Redoubt and the Indian Marine steamer Resolute were directed to try to steal up the Hooghly. The former, in spite of every precaution, was detected by every fort and signal station, and exposed to a fire which must have destroyed her. The latter succeeded in passing Diamond Harbor, but was seen and met with a heavy fire from the forts above that point.

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Captain Thouvenin, of the French Artillery, has brought out an exceedingly simple and ingenious arrangement for ascertaining the distance by sound. His invention, which is known as the Thouvenin Phonotele in the Watch, consists of a keyless watch fitted with a compass and a double graduated scale round the dial of the watch, which permits of readily measuring angles and distances, it being possible to appreciate the length of time taken by the sound in reaching the recorder to the fortieth part of a second. The watch has already been recommended by the French and Russian War Ministers, and a number have now been ordered by the Minister of Public Instruction for teaching topography in the Government Schools.