

we should take stock of the resources of the country in the way of national defence and fortification. This would render possible the co-operation of our defence system here with the Imperial forces, in the event of their united action being required. He had little doubt but that the result of the investigation, particularly in the matter of coast defence, would add very much to the importance attached to the efficiency of the artillery of this country. He expressed regret that his successor would not have the pleasure of meeting with Col. Oswald as president of the association, and having highly complimented that gentleman for the manner in which, to the speaker's personal knowledge, he had discharged the duties of president. His Excellency strongly urged that he should reconsider his determination to withdraw from it.

THANKFUL FOR PAST FAVOURS.

Lieut.-Col. Macdonald, of Guelph, moved a vote of thanks to the government for aid to the association during the past. Even though this support had been too little, he knew that the government considered they had done the best they could for the association, but he sincerely hoped their views upon this point would change.

Major Stewart, Ottawa, seconded the resolution, adding that everyone would like to see the sinews of war more evenly distributed between the rifle and artillery associations.

Col. Panet, Deputy Minister of Militia, in acknowledging the resolution of thanks explained on behalf of the Minister that Sir Adolphe Caron had fully intended to be present, but was unexpectedly detained at the last moment. Respecting the grant to the association he could say that it was not increased in great measure because the estimates for the militia department had been so very much limited.

Capt. Donaldson in moving a vote of thanks to the Hamilton Powder Company for their donation, referred to the urgent necessity of some steps being taken to secure more general contributions to the funds. The association he said had been kept in a state of semi-starvation—dying by inches.

SUPPORT FOR THE MILITARY PAPER.

The following new rule, notice of which had been duly given, was adopted unanimously: "That the CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE, published at Ottawa, shall be the official organ of the association; and publication of a notice in that paper, by the secretary or other person authorized to act on his behalf, shall be a sufficient intimation to all concerned of the holding of any regular or special meeting of the association, or of any proposed changes in the constitution and rules thereof—provided that such notice shall be first inserted at least one month before the holding of the meeting specified, and shall appear in every subsequent issue until such date."

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Mr. T. C. Brainerd, president of the Hamilton Powder Co., and Capt. McMurrich, of the Toronto Garrison Artillery, were elected life members of the association, in consideration of donations and services rendered.

The officers of last year were re-elected, with the exception of the president, Lieut.-Col. Oswald, who for the reasons given above declined to serve again. Lieut.-Col. A. H. Macdonald, president of the council last year, was unanimously chosen in his place. Before accepting, Col. Macdonald addressed the association to make it distinctly understood that he could not attempt to carry the financial responsibilities assumed in the past by Col. Oswald. That gentleman had, he said, occupied a position where he could with the greatest advantage solicit support from the wealthy men of a rich community, whereas there were not the same opportunities in the part of the country where he (Col. Macdonald) resided. Col. Oswald had also been most generous and lavish in the expenditure of his private resources in support of the association, but Col. Macdonald had not the means to attempt to follow his example in this respect. If the association, fully understanding the nature of the change involved, desired to make him president he would be proud to accept the office.

MEETING OF COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the council of the association held in the afternoon, the members present were Lieut.-Cols. Irwin, Macdonald, and McKenzie, Major Stewart and Mr. L. H. Irving.

Lieut.-General Middleton paid a visit, and expressed to the council his regret that he had been unable to attend at the meeting of the association in the morning. He stated that he took a very great interest in its operations, believing the Dominion Artillery Association properly supported to be of even greater usefulness in promoting the proficiency of the branch of the service with which it was connected, than the Dominion Rifle Association was to the infantry branch.

Lieut.-Col. McKenzie, Gananoque, one of the vice-presidents, was elected president, instead of Lieut.-Col. Macdonald, promoted to the

presidency of the association. Lieut.-Col. Curren, of Halifax, was elected a vice-president in his place, and the other three were re-elected, viz.: Major Stewart, Ottawa; Major Lindsay, Quebec, and Major Moore, Charlottetown.

Lieut.-Col. Macdonald, Capt. Donaldson and Major McLean (Port Hope) were elected members of the executive committee, the only change being that Major McLean replaces Lieut.-Col. McKenzie. The inspector and assistant inspectors of artillery are ex-officio members of the committee.

Lieut.-Col. John Macpherson and Capt. Knight were elected auditors, the latter replacing Major Wicksteed, who has gone to reside in England.

It was decided that no entrance fees should be charged in the officers' competition.

The holding of a central garrison meeting and the sending of a team to Shoeburyness were referred to an extraordinary meeting of council.

Practice will not, it was decided, be held in future during annual drill, but if practicable the marksmen of the field artillery will be concentrated.

Tel el Kebir.

[BY TROOPER WILL T. JAMES, GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S BODY GUARD].

Nocturnal mists of gloom are spread
Along the plain; prone as the dead
Each martial sleeper lies;
Around the tentless bivouac
Each watchful sentry stalks his track,
And "All's Well" betimes cries.

Midnight is past—three hours of day
Scarce have in darkness slipped away,
When musters every man;
Full harnessed for the rash onslaught,
Resolved to quit them as they ought,
Like they who took Redan.

The rumbling guns and marshalled squad
In cautious haste speed o'er the sod
In line of battle formed;
Marching all sternly to the fray,
Like spectres in nebulous grey,
Valiant and unalarmed.

At dawn of day, with dread surprise,
Before the foes' affrighted eyes,
Our troops to fight advance;
Swift swarming o'er the neutral ground,
With fire reserved—the only sound:
"Orders and ambulance."

Anon the cannon's thunderous roar
An iron storm upon them pour
From centre to the flanks;
But dauntless 'cross the trench they leap,
Regardless of the fires which sweep
With havoc through their ranks.

Above the clamour rings their shout,
As bold they scale the first redoubt
And mingle with their foes;
Then fiercely fight with desperate zeal,
Nor flinch before the shimmering steel—
Hand now to hand they close.

While thick in deadly struggles pressed
True British valour proves the best
And Egypt's warriors fly;
Our flag o'er Tel el Kebir waves,
But sets the sun on many graves
Where British soldiers lie.

27,300 officers and men, with 3,600 horses and 60 guns, are now occupied in the pacification of Ireland. In the Belfast district there are 4,300, in the Dublin district 14,000, and in the Cork district 8,800.

I had never had the chance, says London *Figaro*, of closely examining a Field Marshal's baton until the other day. After handling one and appraising the value of the gold with which it is lavishly decorated, the crown and much of the ornamental part of the baton being of that precious metal, I can better understand what I had not before been able to make out, viz.: why it was that a British Field Marshal's baton cost upward of 50 guineas.

Belgium has determined to spend about \$12,000,000 on guns for new fortifications. Naturally the native gun makers would like to get such a large order; but hitherto it appears to have been the custom of the Belgian ordnance authorities to get their supplies from Krupp. A very fierce controversy has, therefore, arisen in the papers, which has been complicated by statements that on this occasion French gunmakers will be asked to tender.

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