

BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM BELLEVILLE.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Captain Bridgewater lectured here on the 20th ult. His audience was not very numerous owing partly to the lecture not having been sufficiently advertised, but principally because one of the Penny Readings, which are very popular here, was to come off the same night. The lecture was all that could be desired, and it was a pity to see so few there. The Lecturer's remarks to the Volunteers in exhorting them to steady obedience, strict attention to duty, and a determination to become thoroughly efficient as soldiers, were received with considerable applause; whilst exciting descriptions of a soldier's life in India, where he received some very severe wounds, no doubt roused the ardor of our militaires more or less. Captain Bridgewater spoke for about two hours, concluding by thanking the officers of the 15th, 49th, and Grand Trunk Rifles for their kindness to him. Should the worthy Captain have another opportunity of visiting Belleville, it is to be hoped he may again favor us with a lecture.

G. T. R. SHOOTING MATCH.—You will oblige by inserting the following in your valuable paper: Target practice has become the order of the day here, our Volunteers having been served out with the new Snider Breech-loader. The following score would tell severely on another Fenian raid. This being the first practice with the new rifle it shows the superiority of the weapon over the muzzle-loader. A friendly match was fired at the butts of the 15th Battalion, between five men of the Traffic Department and five men of the Locomotive Department, the other day, for \$10 a side, of No. 7 Company 3rd Battalion G. T. R. B., and resulted in favor of the Locomotive Department by 40 points. Range 200, 300 and 400 yards, 5 shots each.

LOCOMOTIVE.

	Total.
Sergeant W. Clark.....	47
Lance Corporal J. Wilson.....	38
Quartermaster S. Kennedy.....	30
Private J. Middlemass.....	26
Private J. Northcott.....	30

TRAFFIC.

Sergeant Q. Chambers.....	31
Corporal W. Mills.....	31
Corporal J. Kelly.....	14
Lance Corporal W. Brundrett.....	23
Private M. Barker.....	32

FROM NORFOLK.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

No. 3 Company Pleasant Hill has mustered every Saturday, and had target practice last Saturday; the score was as follows (five

shots at 200 yards), of those making over eight points:

	Total.
Sergeant W. Denny.....	9
Sergeant G. Perle.....	9
Corporal F. Farr.....	14
" M. Peronto.....	10
" J. Townsend.....	9
" A. Bristow.....	14
Private P. K. Cline.....	10
" D. Fletcher.....	10
" J. Hazen.....	15
" W. H. Macdonald.....	10
" W. Wingrove.....	11
" J. Wingrove.....	11
" E. Clubine.....	14
" J. McCreedy.....	10
" M. Axford.....	12
" W. Hous.....	11
" J. Wittet.....	13
" J. Young.....	9
" J. Scram.....	10

There were forty one non commissioned officers and men present (two were excused from practice on account of sickness), and, considering the bad range, I think the score a very fair one.

FROM WINDSOR, O.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

23RD ESSEX BATTALION INFANTRY.—This Battalion is in rather a despondent condition just now, and unless a change for the better is effected soon, it will be (sad to say) simply a paper one. This is to be regretted as it was a fine Battalion. Some of the Companies were among the first organised in the Province, and their time having expired they are either disbanded, or about to be, and here, as in other places, we are losing all the trouble and expense which have been incurred in perfecting them in drill and discipline and exchanging soldiers for recruits just for want of some slight encouragement. The drill with the new rifles is generally neglected or not commenced, and this even in the new companies. If the example of one of the Captains was followed Volunteers would indeed be quite justified in any negligence. He allowed his rifles to remain at the R. R. Depot for some time after the others were all removed, and in fact they might have remained altogether had it not been for his subaltern who is a very energetic man, and the gallant Captain expressed himself entirely disinterested in any thing military, but fond of only the sweets of the service. A very good example was set the other day by Major Doherty,—but one it is to be hoped will not have to be followed often. Some of the men of the Amherstburg Company (which is now disbanded) did not comply with the order to give over their clothing and the Major had them arrested and heavily fined.

Our Volunteers are anxious to hear from the new Militia Bill, as we hope it will have the effect of infusing new life into the Force.

FROM TORONTO.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

According to announcement the presentation of the prizes won at the recent Tournament of the Toronto Rifle Club took place before a large and interested audience last evening at the Music Hall, under the immediate patronage of His Excellency Major General Stisted, C. B. The splendid band of H. M. 17th Regt., was in attendance, and performed a selected programme during the intervals between the presentations and the addresses. The platform was well arranged with furniture kindly loaned from the manufactory of Messrs. Jacques & Hay. The most prominent feature of course was the table covered with a large British Ensign, on which were displayed the numerous prizes in kind, specially noticable among which was the Butcher's Vase, imported from London by a gentleman in this city who was struck with its beauty and finish; the cover is surmounted with drums and flags, and the handles represent two Volunteers with rifles at the "slope."

The other articles that attracted more than passing attention was the "Claret Jug and Salver," for the highest average, a silver water jug, the "Russell" watch and chain, and the "Grainger" rifle.

Shortly after His Excellency accompanied by his lady, daughter and suite, arrived and took up their position on the platform. In their immediate vicinity were The Hon. Chief Justice Draper, C. B.; Col. Anderson, C. B., R. A., Commandant; Col. Durie, D. A. G. M.; Col. Denison, Commandant of Volunteers; Capt. Joyce, 13th Hussars; Professors Wilson and Croft and others, besides a brilliant array of ladies.

The President of the Club, Major W. F. Macmaster, having in a brief and clear manner defined the position and interests of the Club, and the great success which had attended this their first tournament, both as regards attendance, prizes and scores, requested His Excellency to present the prizes won in the first two matches.

The General was loudly applauded on stepping to the front and was pleased to remark that he considered it both a duty and a privilege to be present and assist on occasions of this kind. Nothing he continued, gave him greater satisfaction than to witness the prosperity of institutions established to promote efficiency in the use of the rifle. The fate of many a contest has been decided by the judicious disposition of a few skilled marksmen, and time and money expended in rifle practice was well spent, for a country like Canada, interspersed so thickly with mountain, river and glen, much depended on our expert use of the rifle; in fact rifle shooting was the foundation of our Volunteer Force. The marked improvement and increased prosperity of the force led him to believe that the Dominion of Canada would shortly be able to