

upon principles that do not change. While placing due value upon the importance of this distinction, and placing discipline upon the higher scale, I would not be understood as under-estimating the necessity of drill. Each must co-operate with the other to make a good soldier. In teaching drill we teach discipline, and, to a great extent, we teach discipline by means of drill. But it is when men are off duty, in times of idleness or inaction, that discipline is hardest to maintain, and that the effects of good discipline are most felt. In time of action, whether in the field or on the parade ground, men's minds and energies are interested and occupied, and they are less inclined to breaches of discipline. But when parade is over, or the battle has been fought, and the idleness of the camp, or the reaction after the excitement of the fight, the intoxication of victory, or the depression of defeat, the hardships of a weary march, the effect of bodily suffering, as well as of mental inaction—all these, in greater or less degree, are the tests of discipline. As in my own little experience I found it harder to keep up discipline on the plains of Humboldt than when on the constant watch for an enemy, so all history teaches that in such times as I have described, the bonds of discipline are the most quickly loosened and good order the hardest to maintain.

Now this word discipline, which so far I have been using without having given any precise definition of it, may be used in two senses. Its primary sense, as applied to military affairs, means the education of a soldier, apart from that which we comprehend in the term drill. We, however, use the term in common parlance, as I have hitherto been using it, in the sense of the result of that education. We speak of discipline as meaning that condition of obedience to authority—that surrender of one's own will and inclination to the will and inclination of another, which is found essential to the success of all warlike operations, however small and however large. It involves to a great extent the abnegation of our reasoning powers—"ours not to reason why, ours but to do or die"—yet our reason convinces us that this surrender of will, and this abnegation of reason, is in conformity with reason, and reconciles us to a condition of things which otherwise would be unendurable. This discipline, or education, begins with the enlistment of the soldier. His first lesson is that of obedience—obedience to rules, the object of which he may not understand, but which long experience has found to be necessary. His whole life is guided by rule, and thus he becomes habituated to discipline so that when the time for action comes, he is ready to obey as a matter of course, regardless of what to him the result of that obedience may be, and in learning to obey he learns also to command. He finds himself a link in the great chain of responsibility, which binds together the body, large or small, of which he is a part, thus enabling it to act as a machine directed by the single will which sets in motion the whole. He finds that the discipline of which he is the subject in some form or other applies to all, from the highest to the lowest; that the higher in station the greater the responsibility, and that each has his proper function, or duty, for the performance of which he is responsible, and beyond the limits of which he has no right or power to go. He is further taught, at any rate he should be taught, by example, as well as by precept, that the obedience he renders should be a willing and cheerful, not a slavish or mechanical obedience. And, lastly, he should learn that, as part of his obedience, and as a necessary consequence upon his act of enlistment, he must accept all the results of his obedience. He therefore will not complain of hardship, will endure suffering without murmuring, and will forego indulgences or pleasures which are forbidden. The higher moral discipline which should also be inculcated, will teach him to respect himself as well as his superiors. He will not stain his courage by acts of

cruelty or rapine. He will be temperate in all things. The sense of danger will make him thoughtful, not reckless. In short, his discipline will make him a good man as well as a good soldier. And as each man in the body of which he is a member, is confident in himself, so each will learn to be confident in his comrades; and in nothing is good discipline more valuable than in the mutual reliance which it causes in the component parts of a military force. Without that all else is of little value. No matter how brave a man may naturally be, his courage will fail if he feels no confidence in his right or left hand man, and the same principle will apply to companies, regiments or brigades.

(To be continued.)

REGIMENTAL.

A Winnipeg correspondent thus writes concerning the illness of Lt.-Col. Bedson of the 91st, an officer whose loss will be generally deplored:—"From good sources I learn it is only a matter of a short time, ere the force will have to record the death of one of the most efficient officers it has had. His regiment feel to a man the expectant loss and many a silent prayer has gone to the Higher Power for his recovery. Just as he was getting his regiment in shape and being loved by his men, the 'call' came—but the 'final call' so far has not yet been heard—we hope it will not be."

An enthusiastic representation of "G" Company, Q.O.R. of Canada, was assembled at the Union Station, Toronto, Saturday evening (20th ult.), for the purpose of wishing their comrade, Corp. O. E. Baynes Reed, "bon voyage" and every success on the occasion of his leaving for Winnipeg to fill an important position in the Molsons Bank there. The boys of "G," although regretting that circumstances had arisen to deprive the Company of one of its squarest men and best of soldiers, did their utmost to shew by their cordial hand-shaking and cheering that they appreciated men of Corp. Reed's stamp.

The sergeants' mess of the 15th Battalion, Belleville, gave their annual banquet at the Hub on the 17th ult., and it proved of such a pleasant character that the next anniversary will be looked forward to with pleasant anticipations. Mine host Jenkins had the dining hall tastefully decorated and the tables were most tempting in their arrangement. It was nine o'clock before the door opened, a signal for the onslaught upon the dainties provided. The menu was excellent, as it always is when served by this painstaking caterer, and was discussed with a keen relish. Sergt.-Major McKae presided. In the seat of honour to his right was Col. Lazier, then Capt. J. E. Halliwell. To his left Sergt.-Major Baker of the 14th, of Kingston, Capt. W. N. Ponton, Capt. Alex. Robertson. Staff-Sergt. Walker, secretary of the mess, occupied the vice-chair.

Lt.-Col. J. W. Lewis, Brigade Major of the Third and Fourth Military Districts, died at his residence in Brockville on the 21st ult. He was in excellent health until about two weeks before. While on a tour of inspection in the actual discharge of his official duties he caught a severe cold which settled on his system and resulted in death. Col. Lewis was born in Ireland 55 years ago. He came from noted military stock, his father and grandfather having been distinguished officers in the British army. His father was a cousin of Lord Rossmore. When 19 years of age he entered the army as an ensign in the Fortieth Regiment,

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