

reds of others who have sacrificed their time and money on improving and keeping together a company and can only call themselves lieutenants. Some of the latter, especially in the city corps, would be entitled to the rank of brevet lieutenant-colonel if length of service made for anything, and they belonged to the permanent corps and drew their \$2½ and \$3 a day, and generally did nothing else for their country. But such is life, and they will have to be content as their only chance of quick promotion to higher rank is to join the permanent corps, and that is too much to expect. The Government is making itself very unpopular by allowing such a slight as this to be put upon their servants in the militia, for they cannot expect that the rank and file are not attached to their officers and share with them both honor and dishonor. The officers of the permanent corps are not entitled to such precedence, as they are merely militia, and it raises invidious distinctions, and, what's more, they are paid for all they do, and that well, while the others have in most cases to supplement from their own pockets what little pay they get to keep their regiments supplied with the necessary articles of uniform, and are just as liable to be called out for service, as the permanent corps as it now exists could not muster 500 effectives all told.

THE combined band concert given by the bands of the Queen's Own Rifles, Royal Grenadiers and 48th Highlanders, on Monday, 26th inst., was a huge success, and the sergeants are looking around for something else to spend their energy upon. Over 4,000 people were present, and every one was pleased and wondered why such pleasant evenings are not provided oftener. Of course, there were some who were not pleased because the people who got there in time and secured seats did not avail themselves of the promenade feature of the evening, but these can console themselves with the old saying, "Better late than never." The audience was delighted with the singing of Miss World, and the fact that she could be heard throughout the vast building shows what an immense improvement was made in the acoustical properties of the hall by the wires stretched across, and should be an incentive to officers of apparent weak voice to do better. A feature of the evening was the decoration of the company armories, for which prizes were offered by the committee. The Queen's Own, with their accustomed spirit, turned their small cells into quite attractive withdrawing rooms, where the members of the companies entertained their friends, both outwardly and inwardly. None of them could strictly be called military, as that feature was hidden as much as possible, and carpets, curtains, and such like are not included usually in a soldier's outfit, but still they were very tasty and neat, and reflected great credit on the members of the companies who did the work. "B" Company received the prize, after serious consideration from the judges. The Grenadiers did not enter into the competition, but depended on the armories as they are in daily use to attract attention. One company only did anything out of the ordinary, and that was "E," and without disparaging those of the Q.O.R., it was the best decorated armory in the shed. The person who is responsible for it deserves great praise, for such an artistic piece of draping is seldom seen. The Highlanders, as is their nature, had things plain and serviceable without any luxuries. "A," "B" and "C" Companies were very good, and if inspection had been held would have lost very few points. The prize was awarded to "B" Company (Capt. Hugh C. MacLean). The judges were the commanding officers of the three infantry regiments. The proceeds of the concert go to the sergeants' messes of the three regiments, and no doubt during the coming winter will be returned to circulation in one way or another.

TUESDAY evenings the armory habitant is treated to something different in the way of drill, etc., when the artillery and cavalry are put through what part of their drill they can do on foot. The flare of the trumpet, the clashing of swords and spurs, the

rumble of the heavy gun carriages, forms quite a contrast to the more uninteresting infantry. The Body Guards are having very good turnouts, considering the want of attraction there is to a cavalry soldier drilling on foot. The scientists, on the other hand, are few in number, and also lack the spirit and dash which the horses give to them; but they handle the guns well. When the Government build them their driving shed we may expect to see more enthusiasm and more interesting work.

THE Queen's Own started the ball of inspection rolling on Wednesday night, when "A," "B," "C," "D" and "E" Companies were up in order to show the D.O.C. what they did not know, which is always more on inspection night than any time else. Squad drill, including extended order, appears to be the point of the inspection this year and some of the companies were a little weak in their non-com. officers. The manual and firing exercises were, as usual, good, with the exception of the one man who is always a little behind hand and the other man in the rear rank who has been accustomed to fill a place in front. The officers have a comparatively easy time, as very little detail is asked, and their most difficult part comes when they are told to knock the company about. This gives a good officer the advantage over him who knows drill by the book and is afraid of a movement unless he has the men placed just as it is laid down. But one should not judge by the first night, as there is necessarily a certain amount of nervousness among the men, which is considerably decreased when the second night comes. The other corps always get the advantage of this, for they know what to expect and govern themselves accordingly. Many of them were present on Wednesday night and viewed with deep concern the movements called for and went away home to study up.

THE Grenadiers have put off their inspection for a week and with this extra time and the help of the instructors from the permanent corps, should make a good showing. They are working very hard, and with their good target returns this year will run the other regiments pretty close.

THE Highlanders are due for inspection to-night. "A," "E," "F" and "H" Companies will perform for the benefit of the people who come down to see them, one of whom will be Col. Otter.

ONE thing which ought to be attended to at once is the outside parade ground. It is at present in a bad condition for use, and the regiments have no place in which to get in their battalion drill, which forms a most important item of this year's inspection. What the authorities should do is to get the city to make a grand parade ground by removing the trees from Queen street as far up as the north end of the Armories, level and pave it. This, with the space to the south of the drill hall, would make a magnificent square which could be used for the formation of all parades of whatever nature, as well as giving the troops sufficient space in which to perform their drill. Such a square is badly needed in the city, as there is no place at present where a large parade could be formed up, and it would also give the citizens an opportunity of viewing the more interesting movements of battalion drill.

A RECENT general order does away with the blue patrol jacket, and substitutes a blue serge of the same pattern as the red serges now worn. This will be welcome to many, as the patrol jacket is expensive and heavy. Nothing is said about the red serges, whether they are still to be used or not, but it seems useless to have both.

MUCH complaint is made by the officers that the general orders are not received by them as soon as they should be, it being always the case that the newspapers provide the information they contain long before the orders reach their hand. The commanding officers say it is not their fault, as they distribute them as soon as