

COUNTY OF PETERBOROUGH RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

In accordance with previous announcement, the first annual meeting of this Association was held in the Town Council Chamber, on Tuesday fortnight. The President—the Rev. V. Clementi, occupied the chair, and opened the meeting with some appropriate remarks, referring briefly to the satisfactory position of the Association in having a balance on hand at the close of the year, and urging strongly upon all, the increased necessity of giving every encouragement to "Our Volunteers," in consequence of the withdrawal of the troops by the Imperial Government from Canada.

The Secretary having read the minutes of the last meeting of the Council, and several communications which he had received, the meeting proceeded with the election of Officers for the ensuing year, when the following were unanimously elected:

Rev. V. Clementi, President.
Lieut.-Col. Poole, 1st Vice-President.
J. Carnegie, Jr. M.P.P., 2nd V. P.
D. S. Eastwood, Treasurer.
Capt. Kennedy, Adj. Secretary.
Messrs. Thos. Chambers, J. W. Gilmour, A. H. Campbell, George Edmison, P. M. Grover, M. P., and James F. Dennistoun, were elected members of the Council, who, together with the Captains of the several Companies of the 57th Battalion, form the Council.

The Secretary reported that since the last meeting of the Council he had observed an advertisement of the Provincial Association offering to all associations which affiliated previous to the 1st June next, the sum of \$20, and to the first fifteen associations affiliating, in addition, a Snider rifle and 250 rounds of ammunition—the affiliation fee being \$10; and that he had taken upon himself to at once forward that amount in cash, if possible, to secure the rifle—which from information he had obtained, he believed would be the case.

A motion was passed approving of his conduct.

The Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Council to see about a suitable range, reported that they had found one in Ashburnham, which could be had on reasonable terms, and which would not require over \$50 to prepare for practice. After some discussion the committee was authorized to complete the negotiations, and have the necessary work performed on it.

Some discussion having taken place as to having a Spring Meeting. A committee composed of T. Chambers, D. W. Dumble, and J. W. Gilmour, were appointed to solicit subscriptions with that object in view, and it was decided that the council should meet next Wednesday evening, for the purpose of finally deciding the matter. The meeting then adjourned.—*Peterborough Review.*

STADACONA RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

At a general meeting of the Stadacona Rifle Association, which took place on the 4th inst., at the office of the Brigade-Major, Lt. Col. Lamontagne in the Chair, the following report was read and adopted.

First Annual Report of the Stadacona Rifle Association:—

The President and Council of the Stadacona Rifle Association have the pleasure of announcing that His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor of this Province has kindly consented to become Patron of the Association.

The Association now numbers 11 life mem-

bers and 206 1st class; 43 2nd class; and 10 3rd class members.

Members having availed themselves of the privilege granted of purchasing ammunition at cost price, have expended no less than 15,995 rounds of Snider ammunition in practising alone; some of whom have attained to a great proficiency in shooting, as evidenced by the many prizes won by members of this Association at the friendly matches, and more particularly by the fact of the 8th Batt., V. M. Rifles having been the successful competitors in the Battalion match of the "Dominion of Canada Rifle Association."

The first annual match of the Association was held at the Island of Orleans on the 18th August last. It was attended by a large concourse of persons, and was regarded as a great success; 6,500 rounds of Snider ammunition, at a cost of \$156, were given away free of charge on the ground, and His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor was graciously pleased to distribute, in the building of the Military School, prizes amounting to \$869.50.

Apart from the sale of ammunition, the gross amount collected is \$1,489.19, including the Government gratuity of \$150. The amounts expended are:—Prizes awarded, \$869.50; working expenses, \$382.03; loss on ammunition, \$155.22; loss on silver, \$10.60; leaving a balance of \$68.84 to begin the new year with.

The President and Directors trust that the success which has attended the operations of the Association during the past year, will stimulate members to use their exertions to extend its efficiency, which can only be done by increasing the number of its members and the amount of its revenue. The whole respectfully submitted.

E. LAMONTAGNE,
Lt.-Colonel,
President.
W. H. FORREST,
Captain,
Sec. Treas.

Quebec, 4th May, 1869.

The election of officers for the current year then took place, when the following gentlemen were unanimously returned:

Major W. W. SCOTT, Canadian Hussars.
" R. ALLEY,
R. H. SMITH, Esq.,
Capt. J. C. THOMSON,
" J. B. AMOT,
" Thos. A. H. ROY,
" W. J. BARRETT,
Lieut. IRWIN, R.A.,
" RUSSELL, Garrison Artillery.

---*Quebec Chronicle*

THE NEW FREEMASONS' HALL.

A grand Masonic ceremony was performed in the new grand hall in Great Queen-street by the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of English Masons, the Earl of Zetland, in the presence of, perhaps, the largest and most distinguished body of the craft ever before assembled together. The ceremony was that of the dedication to the Order of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of England of the new grand hall and offices, on the site of those which were pulled down some few years since. The new hall is in all respects a splendid building, and it presented a gorgeous sight when opened for the first time in "Grand Lodge." None except full Master Masons, in craft attire, were allowed to be present, and the Grand Master, when seated on his throne, was surrounded by upwards of a thousand officers of lodges from all parts of the United Kingdom. On the left of the Grand Master, who

was most warmly received by the brethren on his ascending the throne, was the Earl of Dalhousie, K.T., G.C.B., Grand Master of Scotland, who also was warmly cheered, and in whose honour the grand salute was given in ancient form. The Duke of Leinster, the Grand Master of Ireland, was represented by a nobleman, an officer of the Irish Grand Lodge. All the noblemen and gentlemen representing the provincial Grand Lodges were present, as were the officers of Grand Lodge, excepting the Pro-Grand Master, the Earl de Grey and Ripon, who was absent in consequence of being called to a Council by Her Majesty. When the crowded lodge had been opened by the Grand Master, after a procession of the Grand Officers had been formed, the proceedings commenced with a prayer by the chaplain of the Grand Lodge. The addresses relative to the building were heard, and then a choir, formed of Messrs. Barnby, Coward, Fielding, Walkor, Wilbye Cooper, Montem Smith, Theodore Distin, and Winn, chanted selections from the chapters of Solomon dedication of the Temple, "I have built thee a house to dwell in," &c. The dedication in solemn form was then proceeded with, according to ancient rites, with corn, wine, and oil, and the Grand Master proclaimed the building to be dedicated to pure Ancient Masonry. The Grand Chaplain (the Rev. Robert J. Simpson) delivered an oration upon the Order, in the course of which he dwelt upon the sacred character of its ceremonies, the highly beneficent foundation upon which it rests, its ancient origin, for its history was carried back beyond all other associations in the world, its application to all forms of religious belief founded on reverence for the Great Architect of the Universe, shown in its being carried among all nations spread over the globe; and its glorious career, he said, was spreading far and wide, to the elevation of men's minds, to the relief of the unfortunate, to the rescue of the falling, to the assistance of the widow and fatherless, and education of the young. The Order had passed unpolluted through the barbaric ages, it had overcome the darkness of medieval times and the persecution of ignorant and bigoted conclaves, and it would still hold on its way uninterrupted by the judgment of fettered minds. The Order, he said, at the conclusion of an eloquent address, was founded by strength, supported by wisdom, and adorned by beauty, and it would stand firm for ever. An anthem, "Hail! immortal Lord," was then chanted by the choir, and the Grand Lodge procession having re-formed, the distinguished column left the hall in the same order in which it had entered. The brethren dined together in the evening, and ladies were permitted to be present in the galleries.

John M. Moriarty, President of the Irish Republican Association of Philadelphia, has sent the following despatch to Senator Chandler: "Accept the thanks of twenty thousand Irishmen of Pennsylvania, who voted for Grant in November, for your late speech on the Alabama claims. Reconstruction, resumption, flourishing manufactures, the restoration of foreign trade, the extension of territory, the vindication of national honour, and the liberation of Ireland, would all follow hostilities against England."

The Grand Duke Constantino is the candidate of the so called German or moderate party in Russia for the succession to the Imperial throne. The eldest son of the Czar is not expected to live long and even if he did survive his father, it is very doubtful if he would be permitted to ascend the throne.