experience in field operations, and training in the movement and maintenance of large bodies of men. Sir Fred Middleton, who had practical experience of the shortcomings of the present system, pointed this out, and so has General Herbert. The autumn is the time for such operations. The temerature is satisfactory, there is no fear of damaging the farmer's crops, because they are harvested, a few preliminary drills would knock out the clumsiness acquired since the annual inspections, all ranks would be brought under the influence of military discipline and regimental organization, just in time to impress firmly upon their minds the lessons of the annual training, the usual disintegrating influences at work during the long intermission would be handicappled. The government should of course bear the expense, and any one who gives five minutes thought to the matter must agree that the money of the department could not be more profitably invested.

. . . .

Nowhere was there more profound regret felt at the loss of H. M. S. "Victe oria" than in the ranks of the anaCdian Militia. The Royal Navy is our navy, it is our proud privilege to regard the officers and blue jackets an brethren in arms, one of our pardonable boasts in fact. Nor was the sorrow at the loss of so many of the empire's brave defenders and the destruction of such a truly magnificent ship confined to the militia. All classes of Canadians shared it; another proof, if one were needed, of the strong bond of sympathy and interest binding Canada to the Mother Country. The loss of the "Victoria" than in the ranks of the Canadportance in the navy and also by reason of the deplorably heavy death list, will leave a big gap in the sister service; but the catastroph, terrible as it was, is not all loss. Who can say that an incident that added so many heroic pages to the glorious history of the British navy was altogether The gallantry and discipline of Britain's sailors never appeared to better advantage than upon that dreadfulevening at Tripolic and we all felt prouder of our British birthright when we heard of their deeds of heroism. The whole world must have been made better by the deaths of these men As to the criticisms passed upon the navy it should be borne in mind that Her Majesty's government is by far the largest ship owner in the world, and while

that is the case it is absurd to expect that the navy will escape immunity from accident.



ST. JOHN, N.B.

Lt. Col. Tucker, the new commanding officer of the Fusiliers, seems to have taken hold with a vim. We hear that a few days after his gazetting he had a meeting of his officers and explained to them his views and intentions in regard to carrying on the interior economy of the corps. He had also during the same week a meeting of non-commissioned officers to whom he gave some very good advice in regard to the more careful attention to their duties and at once organized a class of instruction for N. C. O's under control of the Adj. Maj. Hartt, which meets every Wednesday night at the Drill Shed and already shows good fruits in the improved tone of command and confidence shown by the N. C. O. when in front of their boys. He has also formed a recruit squad, on Monday and Friday evenings and in fact like all new brooms has started in to sweep clean and we hope will continue in the way he has

The corps is this year developing quite a shooting fever, a great number of colts showing upon the range, in fact some of our junior officers almost live there. "Good luck to them may they all get to Bisley upon the earliest 'o-kay-sion.'"

One of the pleasantest gatherings, which yet tinged with a certain amount of sadness, the officers of this corps have had for some time was that held on Tuesday evening, June 20th, at their club room, to bid an official farewell to their late "Chief," Lt. Col. Blaine. The wants of the inner man were carefully attended, to by the club steward, Corp. Woodland. After a short time spent in social conversation, Tt. Col. Lucher called the meeting to order and in a few well chosen remarks expressing his personal regret at Col. Blaine's retirement and on behalf of the officers read the following address, which was very finely engrossed by Mr. Walter Fairweather:

St. John, N. B., June 20th, 1898. Lieute ant Colonel Arbuthnot Blaine, late

comma ding 62nd St. John Fusiliers—

Sir: Your retirement from the command of the 62nd St. John Fusiliers having lately been gazetted, the officers of the corps take this opportunity of expressing their feelings of deep regret that circumstances have necessitated such a step on your part.

Pleasing it must be to you that in the 17 years during which you have been our colonel, you have won and retained the regard and esteem of all your brother officers. We feel that in losing you we part with a friend who was not only well qualified and ever ready to impart instruction in military matters, but was

equally able and willing to aid us with wise counsel and advice when occasions required.

We beg your acceptance of the accompanying gift with the hope that your name will remain on the retired list for many years.

With our kindest wishes for the prosperity of yourself, Mrs. Blaine and the other members of your family,

We remain,

YOUR BROTHER OFFICERS.

And handed Col. Blaine a very handsome gold hunting case, stem winding
watch, Swiss movement, having on the
outside case his monogram and the crest
of the corps and on the inside case the
following inscription: "Presented to
Lt. Col. Blaine by the officers of the 62nd
Fusiliers upon his retirement, June 20th,
1893."

Lt. Col. Blaine made a very feeling reply, thanking the officers for the loyal support given him during his 17 years' command and bespeaking the same for his successor. Speeches were made by Major Maclean, Surgeon Walker and others, after which Col. Blaine in a few brief but heartfelt words referred to his long association with an officer who was likewise now retiring from the force, and who was almost the father of volunteering in St. John,, and who had a distinction which perhaps no other officer now in the militia of Canada had, viz., of having been under arms in a volunteer corps on the day of Her Majesty's coronation. He said he referred to Major Hall, late quartermaster. He also referred to Capt. Thompson, late paymester, who was a volunteer of long standing. The health of these gentlemen was drunk with all honor and duly replied to by them in short speeches. After some songs by Captain Hartt, late of the St. John Rifles, and Lt. Kay, of the Fusiliers, Lt. Col. Tucker proposed the health of Major Hartt, adjutant of the corps, who had the great honor not only to himself but to the corps of going to Bisley this year as adjutant of the Canadian rifle team, and said the felt that if attention to duty and keeping the men up to their work, would do it, the team would bring back the Kolupore Cup. This toast was drunk with "three times three " and " For he's a jolly good fellow."

Major Hartt made a short but appropriate reply, closing by singing "The Boys of the Old Brigade." Major Magee then proposed the toast of the patriotic officer, coupled with the names of Major Maclean, Major Sturda, Capts. Lordly and Manning and Lt. Park, and Hon. Capt. Goddard, quarter-master. These officers very feelingly replied, regretting the cause of their promotions, but trusting they would be found doing their duty.

It now drawing on to the "wee small hams," Lt. Col. Blaine bid each officer goodbye individually and retired, the body of officers rising to their feet and singing "Will he ne'er come back again." So closed the official connection connection of an officer with the corps, of which which he has been a member some 30 years.