

targets to those now erected on Rideau range, the lease of which has been renewed for five years.

#### THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

Lieut.-Col. Denison moved a vote of thanks to His Excellency the Governor-General for his attendance at the meeting, and for his liberal contribution to last year's prize list. Col. Denison said His Excellency had been regularly with them at their annual meetings since he became Governor-General, and had shown an example of punctuality that morning by which they all could profit. We were glad to have as Governor-General not only a military man but one who had held the high office of Secretary of State for War in the Imperial Government. The vote was seconded by Lieut.-Col. Brosseau.

Lord Stanley said in reply: "I thank you sincerely for your kind welcome to me to-day, and I can only assure you that it gives me great pleasure to attend this meeting. As your president has said, the meeting to-day is not to be judged by the numbers present, and the absence of so many gentlemen is not in the least to be taken as an indication that the association is in any degree falling off in interest. As this is a purely business meeting, it is not my intention to make any long remarks. I must, however, congratulate the association on one thing, and that is that since we last met arrangements have been made, satisfactorily on the whole, for the continuance of the rifle ranges, a matter which at one time threatened the discontinuance of our annual meeting at Ottawa. I am pleased, and I have no doubt you are, that this has been averted. I echo what your president has said about the importance of members trying to do what they can to induce others to join the association. It is in this way perhaps more than any other that the efficiency of the association can be maintained. I do not believe in the least that outsiders are not interested or that they grudge the annual contribution that makes them members; but I cannot help thinking that if half the canvassing exhibited in other directions were exhibited in canvassing for the Rifle Association, one and all of us would be better pleased with the membership. I hope that next year there will be a larger number on the roll. I think very much is due to those who have charge of the active management of the association for the skill displayed in regulating both our affairs and our finances, and they deserve the thanks of the meeting. It is a matter of sincere congratulation that the Wimbledon team, under Col. Bacon and Capt. Hood, have given such a good account of themselves. From all I have read, the contest for the Kolapore cup was by no means child's play but a well-sustained contest, and the interest in the contest was kept up to the last moment. We are, therefore, all proud of the distinction achieved by the Wimbledon team. I hope we shall all continue to do all we can to promote the aims and further the objects of the D.R.A. Col. Denison has alluded to myself in my connection with the army. I assure you, being in the Queen's service and holding other positions in the army, that it is to me a matter of great satisfaction and pleasure to find myself connected with an association which is so prosperous and which seems to have an important future before it in the history of the Dominion." (Applause.)

#### THE MINISTER OF MILITIA.

Major Bond, seconded by Capt. Hood, moved a vote of thanks to Sir Adolphe Caron, Minister of Militia, and to Parliament, for the annual grant to the association. The mover said he believed there was no appropriation more heartily supported in the country than was that for rifle shooting purposes. He took occasion to refer to the ammunition question, and expressed the fear that there had been further experimenting at the Quebec factory after satisfactory ammunition had at last been secured.

Sir Adolphe Caron not being present, his Deputy, Col. Panet, acknowledged the vote of thanks on his behalf, explaining that the Minister had been called away somewhere just before the meeting opened. Col. Panet declared there had been no experimenting with the ammunition since the 1888 make, which gave every satisfaction.

Sir John Thompson being asked to speak, said the other members of the Government cordially supported the Minister of Militia in obtaining the grant desired for the maintenance of the force, an important element in producing a national feeling. He was glad of the opportunity to be present as a representative of the Nova Scotia association.

Hon. Charles Tupper was also called upon for a speech. He too was happy to be present to represent his province, and would look after its military interests as far as might be in his power. As Minister of Marine, he might express a tinge of regret that while a good deal had been said on behalf of the military there was not a word about the navy. (Laughter.) He regretted to confess that our naval strength was not what it should be. Those who deplored the laxity in the efforts of members of Parliament in promoting the military welfare should remember that there was hardly any attention paid to our naval forces.

#### OTHER VOTES OF THANKS.

Lt.-Col. Massey moved, seconded by Lt.-Col. D. A. Macdonald, that the thanks of the association be given to the various donors to the

funds, mentioned in the annual report, and especially to the board of the Canada Club, London. Carried.

Lt.-Col. Bacon moved, seconded by Capt. Hood, that the thanks of the association be given to Lt.-Col. Roberts, commanding 2nd Cambridge University Rifle Volunteers, for the use of the range at Cambridge. Carried.

Major Blaiklock moved a vote of thanks to Lieut.-General Sir Fred. Middleton, for the interest he has taken in the association, and his gifts to the funds.

Sir Fred. Middleton, in replying, said he was highly gratified with the way in which the resolution had been proposed and received. In his position he must necessarily take great interest in everything connected with the force. He was glad to note the success of the Canadian team in carrying off the Kolapore cup, and hoped that in new fields they would be equally successful. He would like to draw attention to one thing, and that was that a soldier's target did not stand still. Some years ago when he ventured in England to express an opinion in favour of moving targets he was almost laughed at, but he was glad to say that his view was now being generally accepted in the old land. He thought an effort should be made to have matches in shooting at movable targets. It was an important thing for men in actual service to be able to judge distances. Where a man was shooting always at a target at a known distance he got no practice at calculating distances. A man who had spent all his life in shooting at a thousand yards would probably not come within a mile of a moving army. To meet this want a target with a motion from right to left had been adopted, but as a general rule enemies were not considerate enough to pass along from right to left. They either advanced or retreated, and when there were British soldiers in the field the enemy generally retreated. (Applause.) He emphasized the importance of practising at varying distances, and hoped that a match would be arranged with movable targets which would meet this important want.

#### THE OFFICERS.

Officers for the current year were then elected, and the list now stands thus, being substantially the same as last year:—

President—Lieut.-Col. Geo. A. Kirkpatrick, M.P., Kingston. Vice-Presidents—Ontario, Lieut.-Col. Allan Gilmour, Ottawa; Quebec, Mr. Robert Hamilton, Quebec; New Brunswick, Lieut.-Col. Hon. A. E. Botsford, Sackville; Nova Scotia, Lieut.-General Laurie, M.P. (vice Lieut.-Col. Mackinlay, deceased); Manitoba, Hon. M. A. Girard, Winnipeg; British Columbia, Hon. W. J. Macdonald, Victoria; Prince Edward Island, Hon. R. P. Haythorne, Charlottetown. The presidents of the various provincial associations in connection with the association, and the Deputy Adjutant Generals commanding districts, being members of this association, are ex-officio vice-presidents.

Auditors—Mr. C. H. O'Meara and Major Wicksteed, Ottawa.

Council—The vice-presidents of the association, and the following members elected at this general meeting, together with a like number elected by the provincial associations at their annual meetings: *Ontario*—Col. Panet, Deputy Minister of Militia; Major Toller, G.G.F.G.; Lieut.-Col. White, Ottawa; Lieut.-Col. J. Vance Gravely, 40th Bn.; Lieut.-Col. Hon. J. M. Gibson, M.P.P., 13th Bn.; Major Delamere, Q.O.R.; Lieut.-Col. Jones, 38th Bn. *Quebec*—Lieut.-Col. Miller, 8th R.R.; Lieut.-Col. Hon. J. A. Ouimet, M.P., Montreal; Lieut.-Col. McEachern, C.M.G., Ormstown; Mr. R. N. Hall, M.P.; Lieut.-Col. Massey, 6th Bn. *New Brunswick*—Mr. Josiah Wood, M.P.; Lieut.-Col. Beer, 74th Bn.; Capt. J. Twining Hartt, St. John Rifles. *Nova Scotia*—Major Weston, 66th; Lieut.-Col. Murray; Capt. Bishop, 63rd. *Manitoba*—Mr. Robert Watson, M.P.; Mr. W. B. Scarth, M.P. *British Columbia*—Lieut.-Col. Ross, Ottawa; Capt. H. H. Gray, G.G.F.G. *Prince Edward Island*—Lieut.-Col. H. R. Smith, 14th Bn.; Lieut. E. D. Sutherland, 43rd Bn. *North-West Territories*—Capt. E. Waldo, Ottawa. *Assiniboia*—Major John Walsh, Ottawa. The names of those elected at the provincial association meetings have not yet been forwarded to the secretary of the Dominion Association.

#### THE COUNCIL MEETING.

At a meeting of the council, held immediately after the general meeting, Lieut.-Col. Hon. J. A. Ouimet was re-elected chairman, and the executive of last year were reappointed. Lieut.-Col. Thos. Bacon was re-elected secretary and Lieut.-Col. John Macpherson treasurer. A vote of thanks was passed to the auditors. The chairman of the executive and Lieut.-Col. Tilton and Major Toller were appointed a finance committee.

The executive were authorized to make the necessary arrangements for sending the team to Wimbledon, and the secretary was instructed to notify those having won places on the team that they must notify him of their acceptance of the same on or before 10th March, after which date those next in order will be called upon to fill places not accepted. The selection of the officers of the team was left to the chairman of the council.