large numbers of men positively refused to muster or attend drill during their leisure hours. It is next to impossible to visit the goods depôt at Toronto without finding a number of the officers away from their duty and at the drill shed. The truth of these statements is capable of demonstration.

On the question of loss on American currency, Mr. Brydges said, "He thought it was well understood how the loss on greenbacks arose. The loss arose from traffic coming from the United States and going to another point in the United States. They could not increase their fares to meet this loss, as no one would travel on the Grand Trunk at a dearer rate than in his own country. They could only charge the same fares as were charged by competing lines. It was the traffic that began in America and ended in America that occasioned the loss, there being no loss upon the Canadian traffic. If they charged a man five dollars more for his conveyance, it simply meant advertising that they would not carry any traffic at all."

The foregoing statement carries on the face of it the utter absurdity as to any loss on greenbacks. It admits that they are obliged to carry traffic at the same price as competing lines in the United States, and be paid in the same kind of money; the New York Central, the Erie and Pennsylvania Central, would therefore have exactly the same right to charge loss on the conversion of American currency into gold. The *Montreal Herald* put the case in a very simple and concise way on the 17th of April last, as follows:—"The bankers who make up the Boards of London Directors of Canadian railways set down their receipts in American currency, and speak of the loss which they have sustained by its conversion, as if there could be any doubt that the same competition which fixed the gold price of traffic now would fix it at the same figure in gold—the only true figure—no matter what the nominal currency of the country might be. To treat the excess of receipts caused by the inflation of American currency as a genuine receipt, and then take off the discount and call that a loss, is just as reasonable, and no more so, as it would be to reckon the Canadian receipts in Canadian pounds, and comfort the Shareholders by saying that if they were sterling pounds the revenue would be increased by 25 per cent."

Mr. Brydges at the last October meeting gave other explanations, such for instance, "That it was impossible to avoid the necessity for renewals," &c., and his answers generally