

Lt.-Col. Turnbull, commandant of the Cavalry School; Lt.-Col. Forrest, District Paymaster, and Major Wright and Dr. Lloyd Thomas of H.M. S. Bellerophon. The Governor General and Lieutenant Governor spent the greater part of the day on the Island, and appeared greatly interested in the competition. All the guests were entertained at lunch in the officers' mess tent. On Wednesday afternoon the officers of the staff gave an "at home," at which the company included the Hon. Honore Mercier, Premier of Quebec. Being a man of place, Mr. Mercier said, he found the artillerymen's proceedings quite a novelty. He was pleased to have had this opportunity to pay his first visit to their camp, and in token of the interest he had in their proceedings he generously offered a valuable cup for future competition. In this connection it may be noted that Mr. Mercier is following the excellent example set by Premier Mowat of Ontario, whose cup recently presented to the provincial association is now one of its most coveted prizes. Throughout the meeting, which lasted from Monday to Friday, the camp quarters and commissariat were very efficiently looked after by Major Crawford Lindsay, and nothing but praise was heard with respect to his arrangements.

At the field artillery meeting which opens at Kingston on Tuesday next, all the corps in the Dominion are expected to be represented, except the Winnipeg, Man., and Newcastle, N.S. batteries, for whom the distance to be travelled is too great; and the Welland Canal battery, whose absence will be due to the fact that this week they go into camp at local headquarters, Port Colborne, where their practice will be performed.

The Late Capt. Vaughan.

A favourite wherever known, a good officer and genial companion, died at Montreal last week in the person of Capt. Fred. S. Vaughan, of the 5th Royal Scots, who at the early age of thirty-six fell a victim to, we believe, the dread Bright's disease. His death was quite unexpected. Only a short time previously Capt. Vaughan had been participating with old time relish in his favourite sport with the rifle, having been a competitor at the Quebec Provincial matches. Outside of Montreal Capt. Vaughan was best known as a rifleman, he having proved himself one of the Dominion's best shots, and in 1877 and in 1888 been a member of the Wimbledon teams. In the former year he went as sergeant in the Victoria Rifles. Having dropped rifle shooting for a number of years, he took to it again in 1887, and won his place on the team to sail the following year; amongst his achievements in the individual matches being the winning of the Macdougall Challenge Cup. His death is deeply mourned by D Company, whom he commanded, and they passed a touching resolution of condolence. "As a soldier," it reads, "he was an ornament to his regiment, who will miss his zealous services, a kind officer and a firm friend to us all. His loss will be heavily felt by every one of his company. We desire to express our respectful sympathy with Mrs. Vaughan in her great bereavement, and to assure her that the memory of our Captain will always be remembered with affection and esteem."

The funeral was with full military honours, the procession to and from St. George's Church including a firing party of one hundred of the Royal Scots, the regiment's band and pipers, officers of that and other regiments, and a gun carriage of the Field Battery, bearing the coffin surmounted by the dead captain's sword and helmet, and many flowers. The chief mourners included the father and two brothers of Captain Vaughan, and his late partner Mr. McIndoe. The pall bearers were Majors Blaiklock and Strathy, and Captains Ibbotson and Hood, 5th R.S.; Major Cole and Capt. Ogilvie, M.G.A.; Captains Sims and Busted, 3rd V.R.C. Before leaving the house a short service was conducted by the Rev. J. Edgar Hill, chaplain of the 5th, who had come back to town for that purpose.

Correspondence.

THE RANGE OFFICER'S DUTIES—THE AMMUNITION.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE.—In your issue of 5th under heading "Topics of the Week," re "grievances and range officers nagging," it may be useful to point out that at Wimbledon, where I have been three times—and where I was on the most difficult of all ranges last year, viz. 800, 900 and 1,000 yards—it is the custom of the senior range officer to parade the whole range staff every morning at his office, three quarters of an hour before firing commences, and also at 4 p.m. on the day preceding the commencement of the meeting. On the latter day he reads all the range rules to them. On the following mornings, especially on the first and second, he gives a short lecture or synopsis of the rules before they go on the ranges, and each morning he convinces himself by all available means that they understand the rules. I do not know

if these customs are followed at the D. R. A. meeting as I have never been to one, but the O. R. A. might take some very useful lessons from Wimbledon, notably in re-lettering the register keepers' boards at each re-commencement.

I know, of course, nothing of your grievance, but one ought to be very chary in admitting the validity of a complaint against a range officer, as some men will always lay the blame elsewhere when they don't hold straight. My experience teaches me that the range officer is most liked, and least grumbled at, who FULLY enforces the rules as laid down, firmly and of course courteously.

Regarding the ammunition grievance, may I say a word as somewhat of an expert in the manufacture. The "dropping" of shots is undoubtedly bad and genuine, as I can bear witness, having seen it, and it shows something very unreliable in the powder and filling, but I don't think much of the old caps and anvil falling into the "shoe," and do not believe it could hurt a score. It probably comes from the hole in the base of the cylinder being too large or too small—either might cause it.

C. GREVILLE-HARSTON.

Toronto, 11th September, 1889.

Queries and Replies.

PROMOTIONS IN RURAL CORPS.

Q. In a certain rural battalion the captain of No. 5 Company is offered a majority, goes to school to qualify and hands the company over to his lieutenant, who has held that rank for over 12 years. He holds the company for three months and prepares it for camp before he is gazetted captain. In the meantime the captain of No. 3 company is made paymaster, and his lieutenant, who had held that rank but a few years, is gazetted captain a few weeks before the new captain of No. 5, thus being his senior. Changes in the field officers of the battalion will soon call for a promotion for one or both of these captains. Can the captain of No. 5 take any steps to rank senior to No. 3, which is in justice his place.

M. J. S.

A. He cannot. His case is that of hundreds of officers in battalions where promotions are by precedence in company and not by precedence in corps.

THE LAST IS FIRST.

Q. There are two majors in a battalion. One has a commission dated in 1887 as a Major in the Militia; the other as a Major in a certain battalion, January 1889. In the former no battalion is named, yet they both have served in the same for years. On the commission of the first named no word brevet is used. Which is right major of the battalion?

G. T.

A. The Major in the Battalion is for battalion purposes senior to the Major in the Militia, and is thus Right Major.

SOLDIERS AT CIVILIAN FUNERALS.

Q. "Are soldiers of the Permanent Corps of the Active Militia of Canada who are members of Masonic lodges debarred from attending a brother Mason's funeral in uniform?" Para. 142 R. & O. 1887, does not apply.

KEYSTONE.

A. They are debarred from attending in uniform at any place were forbidden by their commanding officer. Having his consent, there is no regulation forbidding them to attend in uniform as individuals at a Masonic or other funeral; but the practice is for obvious reasons not one to be encouraged.

The Rifle.

THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

His Excellency the Governor General has presented a silver and a bronze medal for competition at the annual meeting of the Assiniboia Provincial Rifle Association.

The Association are trying to get a grant from the Dominion Government, as the other Provincial Associations are so favored, and we do not see why we should be left out in the cold up here.

The Association started at the beginning of this season with a butt 12 feet long by 9 feet high; it is now 72 feet long by 9 feet high.

We started to get a service roll signed for a volunteer rifle corps lately, and got thirty names in two days. We will certainly get one company up, if not two. So much is the outcome of our Rifle Association's work.

As \$2 per annum subscription from members will not cover expenses connected with building new butts and targets, our members have had to turn out and do their own carpentering work. The pits we got dug by Indians whom we employed. Our men are scarcely good enough yet to send a team to Ottawa, but we hope to have one for next year.

REGINA.