

The Rifle.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Province of Quebec Rifle Association was held Friday last at Montreal, Lieut.-Col. Houghton, presiding, and there being present Lieut.-Cols. Mattice, Fraser, Fletcher, Brosseau and Martin; Majors Bond, Starke, Radiger and Blaiklock (secretary); Captains Hood and Gault, and Lieut. Desbarats.

The annual report showed the association to be in a very satisfactory condition. Thanks were tendered to the Governor-General, Lieutenant-Governor, French Consul General Dubail, the Dominion and Provincial Governments and others for the prizes given for competition. The annual matches had to be held at Ottawa, as there was no range in Montreal, and the entries were not quite so numerous as in the previous year, there being 1,944 individuals and 33 teams against 2,029 individuals and 43 teams last year. Details of the winners were given, and satisfaction expressed at the new Dominion ammunition. The new ranges at Cote St. Luc are still in an unfinished condition, and the work already done is absolutely useless, and the importance of a range here was proved by the competition firing at Ottawa costing \$600 extra.

The report of the treasurer (Lieut.-Col. Martin) showed the receipts to be \$5,591.68, including a balance of \$821.74; Dominion Government grant, \$1,700; Provincial do., \$300; subscriptions, \$590; membership, \$64; affiliations, \$177; and entries, \$1,324.45. The disbursements were \$5,287.72, leaving a balance of \$303.96.

It was resolved that the eight highest aggregates in the Martini matches at the D.R.A. be the team for the provincial match at Ottawa.

The election of officers resulted as follows: Chairman of council, Lieut.-Col. Houghton; treasurer, Lieut.-Col. Martin; secretary, Major Blaiklock; finance committee, Lieut.-Cols. Brosseau and Fraser and Major Bond; auditors, Capt. Fair and Lieut. J. G. Ross; representatives to the D.R.A., Lieut.-Col. Brosseau, Majors Bond and Blaiklock and Capts. Hood and Sims; executive committee, Lieut.-Cols. Martin, Fraser, Miller, Fletcher and Brosseau, Majors Bond and Blaiklock, Capts. Hood, Sims, Jamieson and Finlayson.

It was proposed to call a conference of the commanding officers, the city members and the council of the association for the purpose of getting the ranges at Cote St. Luc completed. The public presentation of prizes was discussed, and it was decided to continue it.

READE CAMP OF INSTRUCTION IN WISCONSIN.

Major-General Terry got into the regular army from the volunteer forces of the country, and appreciating the ladder by which he had climbed, he devoted all his energies that he could spare from the routine duties of the regular service to the improvement of the militia, or as it is termed in most States, the National Guard. For this purpose, he surrounded himself with a staff of officers best calculated to impart instruction to the true arm of the defensive power of the Government—to wit, the militia.

Shooting to hit is the objective point of the military art. All other studies and drills are for the purpose of placing the soldier in a position to do this effectually. Generals Sherman, Sheridan, Terry and Crook have appreciated this. The two latter named have detailed an officer on staff duty whose business nine months out of the twelve is to make himself useful to the militia. The extent to which they have succeeded in the State of Wisconsin is shown in a single instance. In January, 1887, the officers of the National Guard were treated to a lecture upon the subject of rifle practice by Lieut. Reade, at Madison, Wis. In March, 1887, the same officer lectured at Milwaukee to the Light Horse Squadron upon the same topic. In April, 1888, Gov. Jeremiah Rusk addressed a letter to Gen. Crook, requesting the services of a skilled expert of the regular army for instruction duty in connection with the National Guard of Wisconsin.

This request was reiterated in June of the same year. The points at which the services of this professional were requested were Menomoneie, Milwaukee, Madison, Rippon and Camp Douglas. General Crook detached an officer of his staff to be present at the places named and on the dates indicated by Governor Rusk.

A detail of two members of each company of infantry and each troop of cavalry in the State was made for the purpose of instruction in learning how to shoot. This detail, comprising in all about 87 men and officers, received theoretical and practical instruction in rifle practice from Lieut. Reade and in September last all were assembled at a camp of instruction in rifle practice and put through the course as is practiced by the soldiery of the regular army.

Camp Philip Reade, as it is named in Governor Rusk's General Orders, was the first rifle camp of instruction and practice ever held in this country by State troops, and Lieut. Reade there entered practically upon his new duties. What he accomplished will be readily inferred by

all who know his enthusiasm and perseverance. It can only be a question of time when the salutary influence of his careful teaching will excite general attention. Meanwhile the members of the Wisconsin National Guard have done honour both to the members and to him by presenting Lieut. Reade with a testimonial, consisting of a solid silver set of 46 pieces, as an evidence of their appreciation of his valuable services. The presentation, by a happy coincidence, fell upon his 44th birthday and was made socially interesting to a memorable degree.

The example of Lieut. Reade in Wisconsin will naturally quicken interest among the militia of other States and good results must necessarily follow. In course of time all citizen soldiers may come to regard the rifle as a weapon of the highest importance when skilfully handled, instead of an ornamental feature of the equipment.—*U. S. Army and Navy Journal*.

Regimental Notes.

ANNUAL DINNER OF F. CO., THIRTEENTH.

Company F., of the Thirteenth Battalion, held their annual dinner at Newport's, King street east, last night. It was a fine company and as fine a dinner as was ever held at that popular establishment—one of the sort that the non-coms. and men of the company may well be proud of. The full company sat down around magnificently spread tables shortly before 9 o'clock and for an hour enjoyed the bounties of the evening, interspersed with friendly chat and the usual amount of levity. Lieut. Tidswell occupied the chair, with Mayor Doran on his right and Major Moore on his left. At the head of the table with the Chairman, were also Major McLaren and Major VanWagner, commanding officer of the Hamilton Field Battery; Acting-Surgeon Griffin, Capt. Adam, Mr. H. McKinnon, Mr. Alex. McKay, M.P., and Mr. Adam Brown, M.P. The non-commissioned officers of the company present were Sergeant Hamilton, Sergeant Healey and Corporal Bethune. Colour-Sergeant Grant, who was to have been the Chairman, was unavoidably absent, being called away at the last moment. Sergeant Hamilton occupied the vice-chair.

The toasts were introduced by the Chairman in a very pleasant manner. The first, of course, was "The Queen," which was received in the loyal manner in which a military organization will always receive it. The toast of "The Governor General" was next given and received with cheers. Lieut. Tidswell made a few very appropriate remarks upon the toast, alluding to the recent visit of Lord Stanley to this city. A song was then given by Private Laidlaw. The next toast, that of "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," called for much enthusiasm. Sergt. Hamilton, late of the 71st Highland Infantry Regiment, responded, after which Corp. Bethune recited "The Defence of the Bridge," in admirable style. "Lieut.-Colonel Gibson and Staff" was the next toast. In offering it Lieut. Tidswell said he regretted that Lieut.-Col. Gibson had, at the last moment, found it impossible to be present. He read a letter of regret from Major Mason and one from Captain Stuart (Adjutant). The toast was responded to by Major Moore, Major McLaren, Capt. Adam and Acting-Surgeon Griffin. Private Richard Bull sang "When I was a Student," the company joining in the chorus. As an encore "Jingle Bells" was given. At this point Major Moore proposed "The Non-Commissioned Officers of F Company." The toast was received with three cheers and a tiger. Sergeant Hamilton, Sergeant Healey and Corporal Bethune responded. "Canada, our Dominion," was the next toast proposed. It was responded to by Messrs. Adam Brown and Alex. McKay. The toast of "The Officers of F Company" called for a most enthusiastic reception. It was responded to by Lieut. Tidswell and Lieut. W.W. Osborne. "The Mayor and Corporation" brought forth hearty cheers and a speech from Mayor Doran in that gentleman's usual happy style. Toasts of "Our Guests," "Our Sister Corps," "The Learned Professions," "The Press" and "The Ladies" followed, with songs, recitations, choruses and speeches intermingled. The songs were by Pte. Bull, Capt. Adam, Lieut. Tidswell and Pte. Champ. The song of Pte. Champ was accompanied by himself upon the banjo and by Pte. Wilson upon the harmonica. Pte. Turnbull played the piano accompaniments. The company separated not long after midnight.—*Times*.

THE 21ST ESSEX FUSILIERS.

Capt. Jones, of No. 3 Co., has just completed a very fine drill shed at Essex Centre, and the same was opened by a military ball on Thursday evening, the 27th inst. The particulars have not yet reached me.

The splendid orchestra of the 21st Fusiliers furnished the music at the late grand ball of the Knights of Labour in the Union Hall, Leamington. All were delighted with the excellent music.

Lieut. Noble Bartlet, of No. 5 Co., Windsor, a promising young lawyer, was recently wedded to Miss Priddie, of Winnipeg. He has the hearty good wishes of his many friends and brother officers of the 21st.

The annual rifle matches of Nos. 1, 3, 4 and 5 Cos. of the 21st Essex Fusiliers were held at their several company headquarters on