

tion. Sergt. T. Gale had the hall nicely touched up for the occasion. A large number of the friends of the regiment were present. Col. Cole in opening the proceedings said that although the regiment had to qualify in other than infantry work, still, during the seventeen years that he had been connected with the regiment they had always held their own fairly well. The prizes were then presented by several ladies. The Turnbull Challenge Shield, which was won by No. 1, was received by Capt. Featherstone, and Lieut.-Col. Cole's Challenge Cup was won by No. 3. Sergt.-Major Fellows and Corp. Noble received the badges presented by the Military Rifle League. At the close of the presentation Col. Cole said he would like to say a word to the members of the regiment. The representatives, he said, of that regiment on the Shoeburyness team had acquitted themselves with great satisfaction, and he would be pardoned for feeling very proud and gratified that they upheld in a pretty fair measure the honor of the Canadian artillery on the other side of the water. The detachment consisted of 24 men picked from the different artillery regiments from Halifax to Vancouver. They were handicapped by the fact that they did not meet each other until within ten days before sailing, but as a team they did their work as well as they could expect artillery men from the time they left until their return. Their conduct in camp and in the different competitions was most exemplary and the successes which crowned their efforts were added to in no small way by the members of their own regiment. He hoped that the benefit which was derived by the members of that team would also be a help to the other members of the regiment. He added that they were treated most royally by the English artillerymen and he hoped that if an English team came this country next year they would be treated in a handsome manner. One of the most pleasing features of the evening was the presentation of swords to Capt. Featherstone and Capt. Wynne, by Lieut.-Col. Cole. Rev. Mr. Pratt, who made the presentation, said if the time ever came when they would have to use the sword that they would be drawn for the honour of Queen and country. Capt. Featherstone acted as adjutant for two years, and it was in recognition of the services which he had rendered during that time that Col. Cole recognised his work, and to Capt. Wynne (quartermaster), who had spent much time in the interests of the regiments. Both captains suitably replied. Capt. Collins called for three cheers for the commandant and Shoeburyness Team, after which the men were dismissed.

HON. DR. BORDEN, Minister of Militia, visited the drill shed on Friday, and inspected the drill shed and armories. He conducted some departmental business with Lieut.-Col. Houghton, D.O.C., and afterwards met a deputation of commanding officers. Major J. B. MacLean, in the absence of Col. Burland, represented the 6th Fusiliers. A number of suggestions were submitted to the Minister, who promised to give them his careful attention. One of the chief requests that was laid before the Minister was the need for a military school. They claimed that Montreal should have a school of her own. Quite a number of other important questions were dealt with, and no doubt they will receive careful attention. The matter of increased allowances to rifle associations and regimental bands, the payment of men's fare to the annual target practice, and the necessity for a proper gymnasium in the drill hall were all discussed.

AN adjourned meeting of the veterans of 1866-70 for the purpose of forming an association was held in the cavalry quarters on Thursday night. There was a large attendance and Lieut.-Col. Lyman presided. The committee which was appointed to draw up a constitution and bylaws submitted their report, which was approved of, and the same committee was appointed to draw up a declaration for the veterans to sign. After they have done this a meeting will be called forty days later for the purpose of electing officers.

The Victoria Rifles will hold a smoker about the 6th of November, which will open their amusement season.

Major Roy, brigade major, returned to Montreal on Sunday and has resumed his duties at the Brigade Office.

The Sergeants' Mess of the 6th Fusiliers held their annual Hallowe'en social and dance in the armory on Friday night. It was a great success.

The arrangements are about complete for the dinner to be held by the Sergeants' Mess of the 1st P.W.R., at their armory, on the 9th November, on the occasion of the Prince of Wales' birthday.

The efficiency returns of the 6th Hussars have just been published. "A" Squadron has come out ahead. This is all the more gratifying seeing that there were such a number of recruits which joined just previous to going into camp.

TORONTO ITEMS.

TORONTO, Oct. 30—Great has been the shaking together of the dry bones this last two weeks, and officers who are prone to take things easy have been moving at a pace for them undignified. Inspection for comparative efficiency is at hand; in fact, has come, and some of the unprepared have been caught napping. There are always such in any aggregation of human beings, no matter how exalted or menial their sphere of action is. Solomon was a very wise man when he advised not to put off till to-morrow what should have been done the day before yesterday, but he would have been of much more service to mankind in general, and to the Toronto militia in particular, if he had devised some scheme of impressing the advice before experience shewed the benefit of following it. But the laggards are not without excuse, especially those who have been at it for many years and have grown old in the service. It must be very hard for them to keep at the same old things. "Manual and firing exercise, company drill, etc., is all very nice, but of what use," say they, "in actual service." "Much," says the young and enthusiastic officer who has just donned his stars, and imagines himself and his company doing gloriously, adhering strictly to the letter of the little red book from which in his eyes nothing wrong but everything needful emanates. Now, both of these are right and both are wrong. The old 'un has become fossilized for want of practical applications of the drill he has practised, and the youngster for the same reason has not yet gathered in the true use of the movements which he is so fond of. Drill, we learn, is training preparatory to work in the field; and truly some of the companies of the city battalions should be well prepared for serious work, for they have been getting in condition for a long time. There is a sad want of practical work, and officers and non-coms. grow weary of training without any application of it, and this accounts for a great deal of the hustle and bustle about inspection time. As it is at present, the company that can get most plugged into it by paid instructors for two weeks before inspection wins, and is looked upon by the great unlearned as the best company of the corps, when, if placed in a position of difficulty, the officers and N.C.O.'s would be at sea. One cannot blame the men much in such a case, as almost everything depends on those in command. Of course, this is laughed at by some, who say that once on active service things would be different, and the same is granted, but why make the whole inspection depend on drill alone? Why not require some application to be made of it in order to see that it is thoroughly understood; or, better still, if this is impossible, let the inspection be at times known only to the inspecting officer, who could then be much more certain that he had found the company or battalion entitled to be considered first.

APPOINTMENTS have been made under the recent general order as to brevet rank, and officers of two or three years standing in the militia may now indulge in the rank of captains and majors. Rather quick promotion, especially when there are hund-