

*CAMP OF THE 8TH PRINCESS LOUISE NEW BRUNSWICK
REGIMENT OF CAVALRY.*

Owing to the Brigade Camp for New Brunswick being held at some distance from the head-quarters of the eighth, a Regimental Camp was held at Rothesay, beginning on the 29th September, when four troops (C. E. F. and G.) reported, the remaining three troops being relieved from drill. The camp ground was well chosen, being near the bank of the Kennebecasis River, and though the area for manœuvring was limited this defect was amply compensated by other facilities. The camp was in command of Lieut.-Col. James Domville, with Major A. Markham as Field Officer, and it is needless, therefore, to say that every detail was thoroughly and strictly carried out. For the first few days a daily riding school was held under Sergt. Dingley, of the Quebec Cavalry School, when every man underwent instruction in this important branch of his training. A new feature this year for the 8th was musketry instruction and practice, which were carried out under troop officers at a range laid out for the purpose. Heretofore no time could be found at the annual camps for shooting, but this year they "made time" and all ranks seemed much pleased with the result, not only in the matter of scores but from the fact that a number of prizes were offered by officers of the corps and prominent residents of Rothesay and vicinity. The weather was most disagreeable throughout the time they were under canvas, and interfered much with drill. The horses, as a rule, were well up to the average, and soon settled down to work, and although the weather was cold very little sickness among either horses or men was reported. The inspection was held on the 9th October and was witnessed by Lieut.-Col. Maunsell, D.A.G., and a number of officers of the Militia and citizens from St. John.

The morning was devoted to an inspection of the men dismounted and an examination of officers in their duties, &c., when each was required to put the troop through a few movements. After a lunch in the mess room, at which a number of guests were present, the whole force paraded in review order, and headed by their band marched to an adjoining field; when, after receiving the D.A.G. with a general salute, the force marched past in column of squadrons and column of troops, and again in the same formations at a trot, after which an advance was made in single file from right of troops and each man was examined critically by the inspecting officer. In these movements the distances and dressing were, as a rule, well kept and the horses held well in hand, though the saluting by the officers had not, in some cases, been sufficiently practised. Some skirmishing was then done, each alternate man firing and the others holding horses, the fighting line occasionally retiring and a troop charging and clearing the front. These movements were well done, though the ground was rough and rather limited. The D.A.G. then addressed the regiment, complimenting them on their proficiency, and the prizes were presented by W. Pugsley, Esq., M.P.P. The presence of the band in camp contributed much to the enjoyment of both soldiers and civilians, and all ranks seemed rather to regret the breaking up of the camp on the 10th inst.

N. B. PROVINCIAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The annual business meeting of this association was held in St. John on the 7th inst., Mr. J. H. Parks, president, in the chair. Capt. J. T. Hartt, secretary of the association, presented the report of the Council, which began by remarking on the great falling off in the number of competitors at the late matches. In discussing the reasons for this the report says:—

The only remedy which suggests itself to the council is the formation of regimental clubs in the several corps, which would lead to a greater interest in the relative shooting of the companies composing them. There is a noticeable lack of this interest in our own corps as compared with many of the corps elsewhere in Canada. In Ontario and Quebec the regimental clubs are most important auxiliaries of the provincial associations. With many of the battalions it is regarded as almost necessary to efficiency that they should furnish each year a fairly strong team to sustain the corp's credit at the larger gatherings. The council, therefore, submits to the consideration of the members their opinion that the only effective means now remaining, by which the members of the provincial association can be enlarged, lies in the formation of shooting clubs or committees in the different corps, whose work it will be to encourage an interest in rifle practice.

What alterations in the present programme would likely aid in increasing the attendance, has been a question much considered by the members of the council. Many suggestions have been made, and some of these the council would beg to mention, though without offering any opinion as to their value. It has been suggested that a maiden team match be added to the prize list, open to teams of five from each corps, the teams to be composed of men who had never before attended a provincial meeting; also, that the squadding be so arranged

that the matches may only occupy three days, so as to save time and expense to the competitors; also, to restrict the nursery match to those who have never won a larger prize than one of \$5; also, that a nursery aggregate be provided, restricted in the same manner.

Owing to the lack of English ammunition, the association was compelled to accept that of Canadian make for use at the matches. It was, unfortunately, found very unreliable, and complaints about it were very general among those who shot it. The hope is expressed that immediate steps will be taken to remedy its defects, for unless its quality is improved the consequence must be fatal to Snider shooting in the Dominion. The executive found it necessary to issue an order that only that ammunition should be used in the matches which was being sold at the office, so as to place all the competitors on the same footing. It would be well, for the future, to insert a direction to this effect in the regulations governing the meeting.

The association was fortunate in having a good representation at the Dominion matches, there being a team proper of 20 members, and five others who accompanied it. With much difficulty free passage over the Intercolonial was secured for the team. With much reason it is hoped that the authorities will continue to pass the maritime riflemen as far as Quebec free of charge. If it is ever refused it will be impossible for the association to furnish anything like a proportionate contingent for the Dominion meeting. The team captain's report contains the detail of the team's success, in some particulars very gratifying. Its winnings were larger than those of any former N. B. team, and it brought back the chief prize in the Governor-General's match.

Since the last annual meeting a five year's lease of the Stockton range at the present yearly rental of \$60 has been procured. By its terms the occupation by the association must begin not earlier than the 18th of August in each year.

Acting on the suggestion contained in the last council report, the executive committee had an additional butt constructed for extra series matches, which gave all the accommodation that was required. The butt has been so built that it will mount a long range target, and the council consider that it might be advisable to include in the next programme a match at 800 yards for Martini rifles only.

Early in the year some correspondence took place between this association and those of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, with reference to an annual inter-provincial team match. Both associations seemed desirous of seeing such a match definitely arranged, but the occurrence of the North-west rebellion put an end to the further consideration of the matter. It is too important a match to be allowed to fall through, and the incoming council would do well to take the initiative in bringing it once more to the notice of the other associations. In view of the growing importance and necessity of Martini shooting, a match such as this shot with this rifle would be of the greatest benefit to the older marksmen of all three provinces."

The financial statement showed that there was a balance on hand of \$22.03, which, with receipts from other sources, makes the total \$2,377.13. The expenditure came within 68 cents of this sum. There is on hand ammunition valued at \$83.36; the claims outstanding are \$31.25, which is really an improvement over last year. The auditors' report confirming the above figures was read and both passed.

Capt. Hartt, who was in command of the Ottawa team, submitted a statement of the amount of money secured by the team in the last competition at Ottawa. The winnings in the return of prizes show that the total amount was \$664. There are also two badges in the Governor-General's match.

A matter that will be of interest in the future, as governing the Wimbledon men's expenses, came up. Lieut. Kirkpatrick and Sergt. Miner, the New Brunswick representatives, had paid the cost of their trip to Ottawa where they joined the Wimbledon team. They had been told by the Dominion Association that the money should be refunded by the N. B. Association. In the past the expenses had been paid—passes have been sent down since 1879—and the question arose as to whether the money could be got for the men, and from whom. No passes were issued at all this year. It was felt that the New Brunswick Association had no legal right to pay the claim. A resolution was, however, adopted that communication should be entered into with the Dominion Association to ascertain if the amount of expenses could not be returned.

On motion of Lieut. Kinnear it was decided to do away hereafter with sighting shots in all the matches.

The resolution of last year with regard to the time of firing was ordered to be carried out. It is as follows:—"That scorekeepers be instructed to allow each pair but 15 minutes wherein to fire their number of rounds, and that they notify each pair to that effect before they commence to fire."

In the election of officers for next year the president was re-nominated by Lieut.-Col. Beer and Lieut.-Col. Armstrong and was unanimously re-elected. Lieut.-Col. Armstrong was chosen unanimously to the office of vice-president. The representatives to the Dominion Association are Capt. Perley, Mr. Wood, M.P., and Lieut.-Col. Armstrong. The Council chosen are as follows:—Major Arncl, Capt. Hartt (Rifles), Lieut. Kinnear, Capt. Loggie, P. A. Melville, Sergt.-Major Carmichael, Capt. Arnold, Major Markham, Sergt. Bourne, Lieut. McMillan, Capt. Hartt (62nd), Lieut. Thompson, Lieut. Lordly, Lieut. E. A. Smith, Capt. Langstroth, Lieut. Botsford, Lieut. S. Langstroth, Lieut. Kirkpatrick, J. P. Macintyre, Paymaster G. F. Smith.