

dulged in various amusements. The first item was a billiard match with the usual result—Creagh first, the remainder nowhere. Next on the list came a shooting contest, when Mr. Benoy shone conspicuously. Then came dinner, which was tabled by Host Wilson in his usual thorough manner. After this an adjournment was made to the dance room where lovers of the Terpsichorean art enjoyed themselves immensely until called away by the sweet warbling of various members. Q. M. S. Dagnall, Witham, Corp. Dixon, Messrs. Ryan and Dickenson were in grand voice. Mrs. Cheshire obliged with "Mr. Mulcahy, Esquire," accompanying herself on the piano. The music was duly appreciated and Messrs. Dominico and Antonio are to be congratulated on their performance. Q. M. S. Witham, photographer to the R. E.'s, took several shots at the members en masse and judging from the jollity prevailing the result should be eminently satisfactory. The party left Bedford about 10 p. m., arriving home without any casualty after having had a remarkably good time. The committee, C. S. M. McQueen, Sgt. Hagan and Corp. Summers, were very energetic, particularly the last named.—Evening Mail, Feb. 23.

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A sergeant of the Leicestershire regiment writes from St. Lucia: "I would like to inform you that the feeling in the Leicestershire regiment is that the the two years served in Halifax is looked upon as the most enjoyable of any station in which the regiment has had the honor of doing garrison duty."

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The agent of the Department of Justice in this city has received an order from the Militia Department, directing him to expropriate the block of land bounded by North Park, Maynard, Cunard streets and Johns lane, for the purpose of erecting thereon a drill shed. The order will be carried out at once and in a short time the new drill shed will be under way.

#### OTTAWA.

The attention of the Adjutant General of Militia was called to the criticisms on the new "Canadian Manual, Firing and Bayonet Exercises." Col. Powell acknowledged that the book was not perfect, several typographical errors having been discovered in it. The inconsistencies which had been pointed out were, he thought, due to careless proof-reading. The book, it appears, was prepared by a committee of officers in Toronto, and printed there. Evidently, as close a supervision had not been kept when the book was going through the press as should have been. The edition, however, is a small one, and it is not at all unlikely that a new edition will shortly be published, after thorough revision. Speaking with reference to the infantry drill book, Col. Powell pointed out that it is very difficult to get a modern work on drill to suit the Canadian service, as our force has not the modern arm which the imperial forces possess.

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Three new officers have been appointed to fill vacancies in the Northwest Mounted Police, viz.: Capt. E. Gilpin Brown, to be inspector; Lt. Col. D. W. Deray Williams, to be inspector; Dr. G. Pearson Bell, Qu'Appelle, to be assistant surgeon. Capt. Brown, as an officer in the 92nd Gordon Highlanders, served through the Afghan war, 1878-80; the Boer war, 1881, and the Egyptian war, 1882. In 1884 he left the Imperial service, came out to Canada and served throughout the Northwest rebellion of 1885. Lt. Col. Williams is also an officer of considerable experience, he having commanded the 7th Battalion of Canadian militia during the Northwest rebellion of 1885. Dr. Bell is a master in surgery of the Aberdeen University, and a member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and has been practising in the Northwest Territories since 1886. Although these gentlemen were not previously connected directly with the N. W. M. P. the Hon. W. B. Ives, resident of the Privy Council, says he has not overlooked merit within the service, he having within the last year promoted two inspectors to be superintendents and three non-commissioned officers to be inspectors. Of the 51 commissioned officers, including the doctors on the force, 21 have been promoted from the ranks.

#### LONDON.

A handsome lot were the soldier lads who sat around the festive board at the London House on Tuesday eve Feb. 20, the occasion being the annual dinner of C company 7th Fusiliers, and it goes without saying that ample justice was done to the excellent menu provided by mine host. Among the guests were noticed Lt. Taylor, Sgt. Maj. McCrimmon, Col. Sgt. Alley, No. 2; Corp. Price, R. R. C.; Sgt. Alley, No. 2; Corp. Price, R. R. C. I.; Col. Sgt. Fleming, 38th Dufferin Rifles; Sgt. Thomson, No. 1 Co. 27th Batt.; Corp. Woods, 13th Batt.; Col. Sgt. Jacobs, No. 5; Col. Sgt. Hayman, No. 4; Col. Sgt. Freeland, No. 1; ex-Sgt. Craine, Sgt. Milligan, No. 4; Corp. Shillington, No. 4; S. Sgt. McCrimmon and others.

Owing to a sudden call to New York Capt. J. M. Moore was unable to be with his company on this occasion, but his place was admirably filled by Lt. Taylor, seconded by Col. Sgt. Brown, who proved himself on the introduction of the toast list, to be an orator born, not made. "The Queen" was received with the usual honors. "Our Commanding Officer and Staff," were not responded to with the usual speeches, owing to the absence of Col. Payne, who was out of town, but was received with enthusiasm, and "They are jolly good fellows." "Sister Corps" was coupled with the names of Col. Sgt. Fleming, 38th; Sgt. Thomson, 37th; Corp. Price, R.R.C.I., and Corp. Woods, 13th. The "Non-Com. Officers" was coupled with the names of Sgt. Major McCrimmon; Col. Sgt. Hayman, and Staff Sgt. McCrimmon. "Sister Companies" brought out Col. Sgt. Freeland, A; Col. Sgt. W. H. Allen, B; Col. Sgt. Hayman, D; Col. Sgt. Jacobs, E; and Sgts. Milligan and Shillington, D. Ex-Sgt.

Craine, B, and W. C. Tackaberry responded to the toast of "Our Guests."

"The Ladies" was ably responded to by Sgts. Shillington and Spicer, both of whom showed by their replies how able they were to champion such a cause, especially Sgt. Shillington. "The Press" and "Our Host" were in turn duly honored and the company broke up well pleased at the success of the entertainment. During the evening the company was favored with some very fine selections by Col. Sgt. Jacobs, Sgt. Thomson, Corp. Beecher, Sgt. Milligan, Pte. Charlton, Sgt. Todd and Privates Coppinger and Garside and Corp. Price.

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Military circles in town have lately been thrown into a flutter of excitement by the sudden and unexpected resignation of Lt. Col. Payne, 7th Fus. In losing him the 7th has lost a good soldier and a true man, and a doubt has been expressed in some quarters whether his equal can be secured to succeed him. Although only in command for the last two years, he succeeded in raising the efficiency of the 7th from 84 1-2 in 1892 to 82 1-2 in 1893. But owing to business which will call for his absence from town for the next eight or nine months he decided to resign. On the street the names of several are mentioned as his successor, but I can truly say that it is not yet known who will succeed him.

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The result of the 7th Fus. Morris Tube Association has proved that the 7th can shoot indoors as well as out, as it is a weekly event to put on 24 or 25 out of 25, standing, kneeling or prone. The spoon winners so far this season are: Pte. Robson, B Co., 8; Major Hayes, Pte. Goodwin, B Co.; Lt. Allison, C Co.; Corp. Erskine, D Co.

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Lt. Col. W. De Ray Williams, formerly of the 7th Fus., was in town last week on his way to the Northwest to take the position of inspector on the Northwest Mounted Police Force, stationed at Regina. Lt. Col. Williams commanded the 7th Fus. during the Northwest campaign of 1885, retiring soon after, to take a position under the Government in the Agricultural Department at Ottawa.

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The officers of the 27th Batt. have succeeded in organizing a bugle band to accompany the battalion to camp next summer. It is under the tutelage of ex-Bugle Major Fisher, R.R.C.I.

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The 29th Batt. will be worthy of the pride of Waterloo County when it goes to camp next June. The Berlin companies will be especially brilliant looking, as since last camp they have been fitted out with new uniforms and helmets. This battalion, which used to be looked down upon by the other corps, is fast becoming one of the most popular among the rural battalions of the district.

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Pte. Williams, who deserted some 18 months ago from No. 1 Co. R.R.C.I., having given himself up, was tried lately