

month of May, is in contemplation and the promoters are sanguine of the most successful event ever undertaken by the regiment.

The many friends of Major Delamere will be sorry to learn of his illness, caused by malarial fever, and all join in the hope that but a short time will elapse ere he will be with us once more.

LECTURE BY CAPT. MUTTON.

Capt. Mutton delivered an interesting lecture in the Mess Room of "G" Company, Q. O. R., on Saturday evening, 31st ult. Subject: "Advance Guards and Outposts." The lecturer commenced by showing the importance of advance guards when an army is on the march, and by a number of sketches illustrated the manner in which the men composing the guard should proceed. The rear guard was next taken up, and its great necessity shown especially when an army is retreating before an enemy. The rear guard's duty in such a case is to destroy bridges and harass the enemy in every way possible, and even sacrifice itself for the safety of the main body. Those present showed their appreciation of the lecture by the earnest attention paid to the Captain's remarks. After the lecture Lieut.-Col. Scoble (of Winnipeg) and Capt. Bennett (Q. O. R.) made short addresses, and some interesting anecdotes were related showing the mistakes a soldier will sometimes make when on guard. Among the audience were noted Lieut. Lee, Col.-Sergt. World, Sergt. N. B. Sasnon, Corp Capp, and many other members of the Q. O. R.

F COMPANY'S SUCCESSFUL CONCERT.

F Company's second concert this season was held at the Buglers' Rooms on Wednesday evening, 14th January.

The chair was occupied by Capt. McGee, and among those who contributed to the success of the evening were Bugle-Major Swift, Sergeants Burns, Woods and Fletcher, Privates Atcheson, Clement, Davies, Cuthbert and Messrs. Milne and Lye. Prof Bohner acted as accompanist. Capt. Bell, of the Victoria Rifles, was among the guests.

F Company expect to be the largest on parade this spring, the names of twenty-five recruits being handed in.

MURRAY'S DANDIES AT IT AGAIN.

'Tis very seldom that anything happens that I Company do not have a finger in the pie, but this time, and for the second time in five years, they not only secured the plum but just about took the crust as well. The members of this Company tendered a complimentary supper to their popular commanding officer, Capt. Murray, at Webb's, on Thursday, 15th ult. Lieut. Crean made an exceedingly happy chairman, and among the guests were Col. Hamilton, Capts. Macdonald, Mutton and Brock, Paymaster Ross, Lieut. Wyatt, Q. O. R., Major Mead, T. F. B. 'Midst such a crowd of good fellows time sped rapidly on, but it remained for Col. Hamilton to arouse the enthusiasm of all to the highest pitch when he announced that Col.-Sergt. Warring G. Kennedy, of I Co., had been promoted to the rank of Sergt.-Major, vice S. C. McKell, lately deceased. While it was understood among many that he was the best choice for that honour, still most of those present had no idea that the coveted distinction would fall to their company for the second time, as I said before, in five years. "Mohawk," as he is commonly called, responded to the congratulations poured in from all sides, and in a happy speech thanked the Colonel for the rank lately bestowed upon him, and promised that his best endeavours would be towards following in the footsteps and carrying out the plans so successfully carried out by his two predecessors.

BREECH BLOCK.

PURE Cod Liver Oil and Emulsion properly made from it are undoubtedly the best remedies for pulmonary complaints. Many emulsions have been placed on the market, but none seem to have met with the success accorded to SLOCUM'S OXYGENIZED EMULSION of PURE COD LIVER OIL. Their Laboratory at 186 West Adelaide Street, Toronto, Ont., is kept constantly going, and every druggist in the country is supplied with the famous remedy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

[This paper does not necessarily share the views expressed in correspondence published in its columns, the use of which is freely granted to writers on topics of interest to the Militia.]

THE MILITIA ORGANIZATION.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE,—It appears to me that "District Camp Staff," in his letter published in your edition of 15th inst., is inclined to overlook the fact that time is money; and that although his suggestions may all be carried out without expense to the Government, each of them means, if adopted, heavy additional expense to the members of the force, who already spend far more time and money than they will ever receive consideration for either from Government or country.

1st. With reference to the officers. While I am quite prepared to admit that there are many whose names ought to have been removed from the Militia List years ago for not having qualified—men who never will, never could qualify, and who are worse than useless in consequence—yet I think there are many, and I know of some, who although they have not qualified within the stipulated twelve months, and may not do so for another twelve or more, are not only not useless, but far better up in all details of drill and discipline, and better instructors, than many who have passed "special" courses. It is not every man who can spare the time necessary to obtain a certificate at one of the schools; and often the busiest men are the most desirable officers for volunteers, for the same energy and devotion to work which has filled their hands with business will most likely be accompanied by the other qualities which best suit a man who is to command others.

I would suggest that rather than remove the names of all officers who cannot find time to leave home to take courses at one of the schools, that the school commandants might be given authority to open schools in the different towns in their various districts, at stated seasons in each year, detailing one of their sergeant-instructors to take charge, under the supervision of the adjutant, or such other officer of the school as he chose to appoint.

This would enable a large majority of officers throughout the Dominion to qualify without leaving home, which is without doubt the greatest difficulty experienced by many in obtaining certificates.

I hold M.S. and R.S.I. certificates, and I am quite sure that my M.S. certificate cost me as much work, and that my instruction was quite as thorough, and complete, except in the practical details of daily barrack life, as the course I put in at the R.S.I., although I spent rather more time there than the majority of "special course" officers.

The opening of such schools ought to cost the country little or nothing, and would save officers wishing to qualify a great deal. Moreover, the attendance thereat need not be limited to officers who have not certificates. Long intervals between drills leave the best of us very rusty, and there are few in the force who would not be benefited by a yearly brush with one of the instructors from the schools.

I agree heartily with "District Camp Staff's" remarks about the utter uselessness of drilling country battalions in Brigade Camps as at present; and from personal experience am inclined to agree with him about the number of "transients" who are brought into camp; the said "transients," by the way, are, as a rule, about as undesirable a class of men in every respect as can be saddled upon any poor captain. But I cannot think that D.C.S. will seriously propose that any number of officers and men should be expected to attend the "Schools of Instruction for two or three weeks each year in addition to the time they spend in camp." Few men can afford to sacrifice so much time for volunteering. If, however, the schools could be brought to their doors, and arranged to suit the exigencies of business, few would