

nected with the militia force for a great many years. He took command of No. 8 Company of the 35th Battalion on its organization, 17th August, 1866, got his brevet majority five years later, and substantive rank on the 9th January, 1874, and has held brevet rank as a lieutenant-colonel since the 17th August, 1876. When the York and Simcoe battalion was organized for North-west service last spring he was gazetted to the senior majority, and during most of the time they were on service he held independent command of one wing of that provisional corps. His well known energy and military ability will doubtless ensure the success of the Peel battalion under his vigorous administration.

Commenting upon Captain Ponton's suggestions for next summer's camp, the *Amherst Gazette* "almost agrees with him" in thinking the early morning drill a mistake. It says:—"Men rising at six should sit down to breakfast by seven, which is later than most of them are accustomed to. Meantime, the rolls should have been called, and perhaps a very short drill been given. By eight o'clock the men could have their tents and accoutrements thoroughly cleaned and themselves ready for any duty. We know by frequent experience the difficulty of answering E. G. P's question: "Is there an adjutant who has not often been nearly demented in his efforts to hand over his guards to the Brigade Major, properly inspected and instructed, promptly at 9.30, when they did not begin breakfast until eight?" We have found it necessary always to have three spare men parade with the regimental guard, in order to fill the places of those who fell during inspection, and have sometimes required all of them to fill vacancies so made, and due, in the opinion of the surgeons, to long fasting by men unaccustomed to it.

From Lt.-Col. Hon. E. Panet, Deputy Minister, and Lt.-Col. Macpherson, director of militia stores, we learn that the problem of manufacturing good scarlet tunic cloth in Canada has at length been solved. For years the Department has asked to be supplied with a home-made material, but until lately it seemed impossible to secure a good cloth combined with a bright and fast scarlet color, but now the required article is made, one even superior in texture to that imported from England. From another source we learn that a contract has been entered into by a private firm with the Paton Company of Sherbrooke, P. Q., whose enterprise and success are household words in the Dominion, for the supply of 2,400 yards of the finest Canadian made tunic cloth. To ensure purity of color and uniformity of texture it is said that the cloth must be made in isolated rooms, on special machines reserved for this purpose alone. The policy of the Department in encouraging home manufactures in every possible way, of which this is an instance, cannot be too highly commended.

Mess s. Emanuel, whose proposal to supply miniature medals we have before referred to, and whose advertisement appears in our columns, have fixed the price of them at five shillings each, complete.

OBITUARY.

We alluded in our last issue to the death of Lieut.-Colonel Baxter, the respected commanding officer of the 24th Kent Battalion since 1878, which sad event occurred at his home in Chatham on the morning of the 4th inst., being the peaceful termination of a long and painful illness which had confined him to his room for several months.

Deceased was born in Edinburgh in 1821, being a son of Capt. Baxter, who served under Wellington in the Peninsula and in the Netherlands, and who came to Canada in 1835.

Col. Baxter having served in the militia as lieutenant and captain, was among the first to respond when the volunteer movement began, and in 1862, when No. 1 Company of the present 24th Battalion

was organized, he was given a commission as lieutenant, under captain (afterwards Col.) Smith. During the Fenian excitement of 1865-6, Lieut. Baxter took the command of his company, his senior officer, Capt. Smith, going on the staff. He soon earned his majority, and in 1878, on the retirement of Col. Smith, was gazetted to the command of the 24th Kent Battalion, which position he retained up to the time of his death. Col. Baxter was a most public spirited citizen, taking a keen interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his fellow-citizens, and besides his unflagging devotion to his military duties, took great pride and spent much time and attention in forwarding educational interests. For six or seven years before his death he occupied the important position of Chief of Police and only resigned a month ago. In this capacity he earned the respect and gratitude of his fellow-townsmen.

His funeral took place with military honors on Sunday, 7th inst. In addition to the staff and company officers of the 24th there were in attendance Lieut.-Col. Aylmer, B.M., Lieut.-Col. O'Malley, Major Guillot and Capt. Cheyne.

Adjutant Rankin commanded the firing party; the funeral proceeding from the residence of Col. Smith, Park street, to Christ church, and thence to Maple Leaf cemetery.

DOMINION ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION.

An extraordinary meeting of the Council was held in Ottawa on the 16th. There were present Col. Macdonald, Guelph; Lieut.-Col. Irwin, I. of A.; Lieut.-Col. Montzambert, Asst. I. of A.; Lieut.-Col. Lamontagne, D.A.G.; Lieut.-Col. McKenzie, Gananoque; Major Stewart, Ottawa. It was decided that, subject to the approval of the proper authorities and the reception of their usual allowance from government, a team of 2 officers and 20 non-com. officers and men be sent to Shoeburyness competition under the auspices of the D.A.A. The composition, etc., of the team were referred to a subsequent meeting. The Annual Reports of the Executive Committee, Secretary, Treasurer, and Council were discussed and agreed upon.

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE EX-CADET CLUB.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The regular meeting of this club was held in the Russell, Ottawa, on the 13th, with the president, Lieut. Irving, Toronto G. A., in the chair, and about thirty graduates and ex-cadets in attendance. This is a vast improvement in numbers over any previous meeting, all of which have been held in Toronto; in fact the poor attendance heretofore threatened the success of the club, which now, however, seems assured, and it is expected that in a short time every ex-cadet will be a member. The benefits of such a club are obvious, tending to a closer union between the members both socially and in military and professional matters. After routine business, it was resolved that the headquarters of the club should be transferred from Toronto to Ottawa.

Major J. B. Ridout, Cameronian Highlanders, now serving in India, and late captain of cadets at the college, was elected an honorary member of the club.

The following officers were elected for 1886-7:—President—Lieut. Duncan Macpherson, Divisional Engineer, C. P. R. Vice-President—Lieut. Thomas Benson, "A" Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery, Battleford. Secretary-Treasurer—Lieut. Fred. White, Department of Militia and Defence. Managing Committee—Capt. Wise, A. D. C.; Lieut. Doucet, Mounted Infantry, Winnipeg; Lieut. Keefer, Princess Louise Dragoon Guards, Ottawa; Lieut. Würtele, Royal Military College Staff; Lieut. F. C. Anderson, Post Office Department, Ottawa.

A definite line of action in the interests of the graduates was decided upon and a committee appointed to carry out the same.

The meeting then adjourned. The next meeting will be held in Ottawa a year hence.

ANNUAL DINNER.

The first annual dinner of the club was held in the Russell the same evening and was an unqualified success. We are indebted to the *Citizen* for a synopsis of the speeches.

The chair was occupied by the retiring president, Lieut. Irving, Toronto, and the vice-chair by Capt. Denison, South Staffordshire Regiment. Sir Adolphe Caron was unable to be present as he was dining at Government House, but he sent his regrets; Sir Frederick Middleton was detained until a late hour by the same cause; the other guests present were Lieut.-Col. Oliver, R.A. and Prof. Harris, R.M.C. staff, and the Editor of the *Citizen*. The former cadets who were pre-