

After some discussion the report was adopted.

The financial statement of the treasurer showed a balance in hand on the year's operations of \$245.81.

The president said the statement was a very satisfactory one, and he had no doubt the government of Ontario this year would renew its grant of \$500.

On motion of Capt. McMurrich, seconded by Major Hood, the report was adopted.

A letter was read from Sir A. P. Caron, Minister of Militia and Defence, signifying his willingness to become a vice-patron of the association, and promising to do all in his power to advance its interests.

Several changes in the constitution were made. The Lieutenant-Governor of the province was requested to become patron of the association.

Major King moved that the annual meeting of the association be held immediately after the autumnal firing instead of on the second Thursday in January. He held that by making the change it would afford an opportunity for all the officers to be present at the meeting, and make it a more representative gathering. Captain Hendrie seconded the motion.

Lt.-Col. Macdonald approved of the annual meeting being held at the time when there was a concentration of marksmen, and he therefore moved the following amendment: "In the event of the marksmen of the batteries being concentrated, the meeting shall be held at the same time and place as the annual competitions." Captain Mead seconded the amendment.

The amendment was adopted. It was decided also, in the event of the marksmen not being concentrated, to hold the annual meeting on the second Tuesday after the meeting of the Local Legislature.

Major King moved, seconded by Captain McMurrich, that a cordial vote of thanks be tendered the Local Government for their grant of \$500. Carried.

Lieut.-Col. McKenzie moved, seconded by Major McLean, a vote of thanks to Col. Gzowski for his offer of a prize of \$50. Carried.

Lieut.-Col. Gray read his report as president, which has already been published. On motion it was adopted.

Lieut.-Col. McKenzie, moved, seconded by Major McLean, that the sum of \$50 be granted to the secretary, Lieut. Irving, as a slight recognition of his valuable services to the association. Carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Lieut.-Col. Macdonald moved that Lieut.-Col. Gray be re-elected president of the association.

Lieut.-Col. Gray declined renomination. He said he did not believe in a second term for an office of that kind, and thought the honors should go round. Moreover, circumstances might necessitate his retirement from the militia force this year.

Lieut.-Col. McKenzie moved, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Macdonald, that Capt. W. B. McMurrich, of the Toronto G. A., be elected president of the association for the ensuing year.

The motion was adopted unanimously and Capt. McMurrich briefly returned thanks.

The other officers were elected as follows:—

Vice-Presidents—Lieut.-Col. Peters, London, F.B.; Lieut.-Col. Hogg, Collingwood G.B.; Major McLean, Durham F.B.; Lieut.-Col. Mackenzie, Gananoque F.B.

Secretary—Lieut. L. H. Irving, Toronto G.B.

Treasurer—Lieut. A. H. Malloch, Toronto G.B.

A vote of thanks was passed to Captain Delamere, of the Q.O.R., for his services as auditor, and he was unanimously re-elected.

The meeting then adjourned.

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

The council immediately afterwards assembled and elected officers as follows:—President, Lieut.-Col. Gray, Toronto F.B.; Vice-Presidents, Major W. Nicholl, 1st brigade F.A., Guelph; Major F. King, Welland F.B.; Lieut. D. McNaughton, Cobourg G.B.; Major John Stewart, Ottawa F.B. Executive Committee—Capt. J. H. Mead, Toronto F.B.; Capt. J. S. Hendrie, Hamilton F.B.; Capt. J. Davidson, 1st brigade F.A., Guelph. Representative to Executive Committee of Dominion Association, Lieut.-Col. W. McKenzie, Gananoque F.B.

The proceedings then closed.

The officers of the Ontario artillery association paid their respects to his honor the Lieutenant-Governor at Government House after the proceedings of the annual meeting were concluded.

Rat Portage.—A rifle company is being organized in Rat Portage, Ont. At a meeting held on the 7th inst the following enrolled, being half the number required:—Messrs. Michaud, Holmes, Nicholson, Murphy, Jno. Barnes, Dauphin, Chapman, Slavin, H. Barnes, Carmichael, Hare, Seaton, Readtud, Holberg, Kobold, Alexander, McKeon, Templeton, Mitchell, Glover, Robinson and McCrossan—21.

Annual Report of the Council of the New Brunswick Provincial Rifle Association.

THE Council have to present the following as their report for the year 1886, being the twentieth since the formation of the association.

1. With a balance of \$169.00 remaining on hand the association is financially in a satisfactory condition. For a full account of the finances the council refer to the treasurer's statement duly audited and submitted herewith. Out of the balance on hand, however, are yet to be provided some twelve medals due the county associations.

It is a matter of regret that the list of members remains so small and active steps should, perhaps, be taken to secure the more general membership of the militia officers. As the association is in reality a branch and auxiliary of the active force in the province it is deserving of this slight support from all officers who would see the shooting efficiency of the militia improve.

2. The amount of the annual prize list was reduced by about \$100 to partly offset the loss consequent upon the disallowance of sighting shots. The reduction was effected by striking out the competition previously known as the Battalion match, and the Prince of Wales, so long shot at the shorter ranges, was made a Queen's range match, and in connection with it were offered the usual prizes for battalion teams. With Captain Hazen's consent his challenge cup was also placed in the match as the first team prize; the Skirmishing match being altogether struck out.

All four of the suggestions contained in the first paragraph of last year's report were, after consideration, carried out, and on the whole proved advantageous.

The Maiden match brought out three teams of new comers, one each from the 8th Cavalry, 67th Batt. and St. John Rifles.

The matches commenced as usual on a Tuesday, the 17th of August, and though somewhat delayed on that day by rain were finished easily by Thursday evening. The council judge from the general expression of opinion that the competitors approved of the meeting being thus limited to three days.

The number of competitors was slightly in excess of that of last year. The register keepers were all non-competitors, and the duty was more punctually carried out. Another year, though, they must be made more conversant with their duties before they enter upon the work.

The ammunition of Canadian manufacture is still far from being reliable and to it more than to any other cause is it to be attributed, as last year, the miserably low average of winning scores.

3. The council must again point out that the Provincial rifle association is almost wholly unaided by county associations and regimental clubs. Only three of the seven county associations held their matches before Sussex, and there is not a genuine regimental rifle club in the province. The council are very strongly of opinion that it is the duty of the county associations to do what they can to augment the attendance at the provincial meeting, and that they should not fail to hold their competitions beforehand. The prospect is happily a little better than it was last year, for there is now an energetic club at Moncton with a good membership, and from which a representation may be expected as soon as a company of active militia can be formed there, and another club is about being organized at Hampton in connection with the 8th Cavalry.

4. The past year has seen the inauguration of the annual team match between the three maritime provinces. Correspondence on the subject was resumed early in the season and the opening match was eventually shot at Moncton on the 15th of July. The association of Prince Edward Island was not able this year to send a team, so the match was confined to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. The shooting on the part of both teams was surprisingly high, and though our team gained the match, it was only by the narrow majority of eight points. The totals were 701 and 693. The team from this province was chosen by the executive committee as the time would not admit of any other course; but the council are of opinion that some competitive method should be adopted, and they recommend this for consideration.

A number of resolutions passed at a meeting of the two teams will be submitted for the consideration of the association and the council hope that they will all meet with approval.

5. Success, and that of a brilliant kind, is also to be recorded of another Ottawa team. The members of the association must feel more than satisfied with the many high places taken by our representatives in the individual competitions, and must appreciate the fact that two of these—those in the Governor General's and Wimbledon twenty—are the first in honor in the eyes of Dominion riflemen.

6. In compliance with an application to the Militia Department 20 unused Martini rifles of the early manufacture have been loaned to the association and are now in store at St. John for issue to the members. The association has now control of about fifty of these rifles of which