

thus taken are the record of shooting made, and are valuable for future reference and comparison, and after a few years the information they contain are of interest to their possessor. The habit also induces during a match a more careful attention to the appearance of the atmosphere, degree of light, condition of the targets, whether in light or shade, the force and direction of the wind, etc.; and thus the mind of the shooter is on his work, and, being so, he is more apt to have his nerves kept quiet, and to be more careful and steady than the careless man, whose impatience between shots with nothing to do, leads him to kick his toes into the ground, and perhaps grumble at his note-taking neighbour, or everything, or anybody.

There are many ways of noting the direction of the wind and it does not matter which of them be adopted so long as it is understood by the user. The simplest method, however, is to use the watch dial, or for that matter a watch may be dispensed with. Thus, if 12 be placed towards the targets, 6 will be towards the firing point and the direction may be noted by registering from what o'clock the wind blows, and this of course holds good on any range, no matter what course of the compass it may be laid out on. The majority of shots now speak of the position of a shot on the target by the position it would occupy on the face of a clock.

To be Continued.

NOTES FROM THE BROCKVILLE CAMP.

The annual camp of the fourth military district was begun at Brockville on the fifteenth and continued for twelve days. The ground chosen is that which for two or three years back has been used for the same purpose, situated about 2½ miles west of the town. Its position is magnificent, and could not be excelled anywhere. On the banks of the St. Lawrence, with the picturesque scenery of the Thousand Islands for a foreground, a hardwood knoll forms a commanding eminence for the brigade headquarters, while a fine open pine grove farther west furnishes ample accommodation for the tents of the various battalions, and still farther to the westward stretch two almost level pastures that make capital parade grounds. About 400 yards in rear runs the highway from the town.

The troops came in on Tuesday afternoon in small detachments, first to arrive being the Gananoque Field Battery, under Lieut.-Col. Mackenzie, and No. 2 company 41st Battalion, who were brought down by steamer. These last in had to endure the misery of pitching camp on wet ground and sleeping in wet clothes, in consequence of a heavy shower about five o'clock. This was the only rain experienced during the camp, except on the afternoon of the following Tuesday, when it rained very heavily, the two field batteries being caught in a march to Lynn, and the 56th battalion at the rifle ranges.

When all the troops were assembled it was found that there were in camp the Prescott Troop of Cavalry, under Capt. Raney, 37 strong; the Ottawa Field Battery, under Major Stewart, 66 strong; the Gananoque Field Battery, 70 men, under Lieut.-Col. Mackenzie, and accompanied by a fine band; the 41st Brockville Rifles, under Col. Cole, 153; the 42nd Infantry, 256 strong, under Col. Buell; and the 56th Lisgar Rifles, 156, under Col. Campbell. Each of these infantry battalions also had a band. The headquarters staff consisted of Lieut.-Col. Lamontagne, D. A. G.; Lieut. Col. Lewis, B. M.; Lieut.-Col. Bredin, 59th, Camp Q. M.; Major Anderson, 43rd, Instructor of Musketry; and Capt. Gourdeau, P.L.D.G., Supply Officer. There were also eight brigade staff sergeants.

On Wednesday morning the regular routine duties began, with three drills a day, at 7, 10 and 3 o'clock. In compliance with the wishes of the Major-General commanding, special attention was paid to the musketry instruction and target practice, the Instructor and his sergeant drilling each battalion in turn before taking them down to the butts to fire their twenty rounds.

The commandant put into execution the general order requiring an examination of all officers with a view to determining their efficiency, taking each one separately, asking him questions, and making him drill his corps. He also, on the last day of the camp, inspected all the arms and accoutrements minutely, with a view of reporting on their condition to the Militia department.

In consequence of the time occupied in these duties, and of the fact that neither the General, the Minister, nor any other authority visited the camp, it was thought best not to have any brigade drills or field days, and so no sham fight was held, much to the disappointment of numerous visitors who came up from town on the day before the camp broke up, in the expectation of witnessing the usual field day.

In the matter of amusements, the camp seemed to be much duller than a summer camp. The water was too cold to encourage bathing, and the small boats which are annually brought up for hire were not

patronized so extensively as usual. On one night there was an elephant procession, and on the next Riel was burned in effigy, furnishing a little excitement for the picquet. On the Friday the cavalry competed at hurdle jumping for a cup offered by Dr. Coleman. The great resource was leave to go to Brockville, where some very good entertainments were going on at the theatre, notably "A Night Off," by Rehan's company, and a performance in aid of the dispensary, by some of the ladies and gentlemen of the town, which proved a decided success.

Col. Mackenzie's battery, which was the first to arrive, was also the first to leave, embarking in very short order at 8 on Friday evening. For the first time in years the tents were fit to strike when the camp broke up, and early on Saturday all that was left of the busy scene was the pine grove and a couple of swearing Quarter-masters trying to make out their tally of tent-pins, unmindful of the facts that the first wood ration was green, and that company cooks are mortal.

"HANGER-ON."

THE WANTS OF THE ENGLISH VOLUNTEER FORCE.

A very interesting lecture on the above subject was delivered lately at the United Service Institution, London, by Col. R. Harrison, C.B., C.M.G., R.E., Asst.-A.G. and Q.M.G., and was followed by a long and useful discussion. Colonel Harrison first discussed the mobilization of the force, drawing attention to the fact that all the principal European nations, excepting England, had settled what portion of its available peace army should be made a moveable one capable of taking the field, and what part equipped for garrison duty only; it had made elaborate tables showing what had to be done at each military district, and at each place of concentration as soon as the order to mobilize was issued; it had prepared all the necessary clothing, equipment and transport; or, at all events, had arranged how and where to lay hands on them; and it had made up its mind how to obtain the required number of staff and departmental officers. This might be done for England and her colonies without spending a penny of the taxpayers' money. All that was required was that a few of the able staff officers, of whom the country possessed so many, should be told off to do the task. But the work required time. It was the sort of work that could not be done in a hurry and in the excitement immediately preceding a war. Unless it was done before an enemy set foot on our shores, all that might be brought about by individual effort to fit the volunteers for war would be simply thrown away. He then sketched out what would be the duty of volunteers when on service—to man the garrisons and to do defensive duty in the neighborhood of the towns and villages—and proceeded to deal with the personal equipment of the men who would have to perform these duties. As regards the question of uniform, he held that heavy infantry should have one color, and light infantry another, a course which would be a help to commanders in the field. He passed on to show how a trowel could be carried with the bayonet, and filled pouches and other weights be carried by means of outside braces. He dwelt upon the importance to the volunteer, as a soldier, of a great-coat and cape, the latter as a protection against light showers, the former to keep the soldier warm when he was not on the march. According to his plan, the weight to be carried with clothes, great-coat, cape, rations, canteen, ammunition, etc., would amount to 47 lb. 6 oz. The speaker then entered upon the means by which these necessities could be provided, and suggested that an association should be formed of all volunteer bodies to provide these articles for the force. The position originally taken up by the volunteers was that they were entirely independent of Government aid, and he thought the same principle should have been maintained, and urged that a general statement should be circulated before any further help was asked for from the Government. Should any of those appealed to shrink from their obvious duty as citizens, it might be well to remind them that the ranks of the Militia were far from being full, and that, should the volunteers fall off in numbers or efficiency, it was more than probable that sooner or later the ballot would have to be applied in order to obtain men for the first-named force. He then went on to describe the equipment (other than personal) which would be required for a corps of volunteer infantry about to be mobilized, and which the Government should always have in readiness. The concluding part of the lecture consisted in an inquiry into the means by which volunteers could obtain the necessary instruction in the art of war. Evidently the primary object of all military training should be to prepare men for war; and, as the time which volunteers could give to such training was necessarily limited, the whole of that time should be devoted to the primary object. The whole of the circumstances of war might be divided into three heads—the march, the bivouac, and the battle. In each of these circumstances there were two tactical formations—"close order" and "extended order." On the march, the main body was in close order, while the troops detailed for its protection were in extended order. In bivouac, the soldiers by the camp fires were in close order, and the guards and outposts in extended order; while in battle the fighting line was in extended order, and the reserves in close order. A great deal of "drill" was considered generally necessary, not as instruction for field movements, but simply as a means by which discipline was to be taught. Discipline was, of course, absolutely necessary; but it could not be denied that it could be acquired by the well-educated middle-class man, who took up his arms from patriotic motives, with much greater facility than by the agricultural laborer, who enlisted merely or mainly to earn his daily bread. He contended that even if drill which had for its object only the teaching of discipline and rendering a man what is called *smart*, is considered necessary when the rustic from the plough had to be turned in a soldier of the line, it was not an essential in the case of the volunteer; all that he required being the drill necessary to train him for war. For the use of volunteers a text book should be compiled, as short and simple as possible, containing (1) the necessary instruction for the recruit in marching, shooting, &c.; (2) company drill, containing all that the great majority of volunteers should be required to know; (3) some miscellaneous subjects, and perhaps the few essential movements in the drill of a bat-