

shall bring them to the critical point.

2. The relative ability, from the condition in which they reach that point, to corps with an enemy whose order is little, if at all, disturbed, and who has been comparatively little injured by fire.

Dealing first with the last proposition, one is bound to believe that there can be no choice as to which body (allowing that it had once reached the critical point) would have the best chance of success; a line with its highest fire power, its moral and physical force as a closed body, and its pouches full, or the "swarm," whose fire power could not be greater, with its acknowledged inferiority of moral and physical force, and its ammunition more or less expended.

Under the first proposition there can also be no doubt that (the protection from the enemy's fire being supposed equally good in both cases) the superior moral force and controllability of a closed body would enable it to maintain its forward movement and would exercise a moral influence over the skirmishers that covered its advance to do the same, with infinitely more certainty than what must necessarily be the spasmodic and disjointed efforts of "the swarm," whose flagging zeal it is proposed to stimulate by repeated reinforcements, which will add to the numbers exposed, and get more men "but which (the same material and numbers being used) can never make the moral or physical force of a "swarm" equal to that of a closed and well organized body.

It follows then that the "swarm" requires considerably superior numbers to bring its moral and physical force on a level with the line.

Required, therefore, a certain amount of moral and physical force during an advance and at the critical point: no one, it is believed, will be bold enough to contend that superior numbers advancing as a swarm will be exposed to less risk than a smaller number progressing systematically.

(To be Continued)

PRESENTATION TO CAPTAIN PARKS.

(From St. John Telegraph 18th January.)

Last evening the Company of N. B. Engineers under the command of Captain Parks met at the Drill room in the Custom House building, at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of drill and inspection, and also to present to their captain a token of their esteem and regard for him. There was a pretty full muster of this company, which numbers some 60 men, and their appearance in their handsome uniforms and busbys was admirable. They were put through various company manoeuvres, which they performed in excellent style, and inspected by the Brigade Major, Lt. Col. Otty who is to send in requisitions for certain additional equipments which they require. Then they were ranged two deep in line, and John Boyd Esq., who had been requested by the company to make the presentation and read the address which accompanied it, came forward. He expressed the great pleasure he felt in such a noble and spontaneous act on the part of the Engineers who showed by it the regard in which they held their commanding officer. By it they did themselves honour as well as Captain Parks, and illustrated the mutual confidence and esteem in which commander and commanded felt for each other. He had great pleasure in complying with the wishes of the Engineers, and handing to Captain Parks, in their name, the very beautiful meerschaum pipe, tobacco pouch, fusee holder and cleaner

which accompanied the address, which he read, as follows:—

SAINT JOHN, Jan. 17, 1873.

To Capt. J. H. Parks New Brunswick Engineers.

We, the members of your company, feeling desirous of making known to you, the high esteem in which you are held by the members of said company, have the pleasure of presenting to you this pipe, not for its intrinsic value alone, but as a token of our esteem for you, as a gentleman, and also as a pledge of our respect for you as our Captain.

May you have the satisfaction, when looking at this pipe, of knowing that our intentions are as pure as the material of which it is composed, and as it deepens in color, so our attachment to you may equally grow deep and lasting: and may we, like this broom, help to clear away any obstacle that may tend to obstruct the friendly feeling which has, hitherto prevailed in the company.

At the end of three years' service we thought that the re-enrollment would fall to the ground, but when we saw the deep interest you took in keeping the company together, nearly every old member re-enrolled, and it had the effect of inducing many new ones to join.

We therefore feel assured that while you receive the aid able and assistances of our respected Lieutenant Perley, there shall be no such word known in our vocabulary as fail.

In the interest you take, and inducements you hold out to your men in target practice, we consider you have no equal.

Our sincere wish and desire is that you may long be spared to enjoy any pleasure this pipe may be the means of affording you.

The pipe is a very beautiful and costly meerschaum mounted with an 18-carat gold ferrule, on which is engraved "Capt. J. H. Parks, N. B. Engineers, from his company."

Capt. Parks, in a brief and appropriate speech thanked the Engineers for their handsome present. It quite took him by surprise, but he said in selecting the gift they had thought of his fondness for the weed. He hoped and believed the harmonious relations which had always existed between the officers and men of his company would continue always.

Three cheers was then given for Capt. Parks and three more for Mr. Boyd, who in returning his thanks for the compliment, stated that he would present a prize to be competed for by the Engineers, for the best rifle target shooting in the company.

This announcement elicited applause after which three cheers were given for Col. Otty, who in responding said that he hoped to see them all at the Brigade camp, performing duty as engineers and as far as lay in his power, he would see that they were provided with tools and the proper equipment necessary for them as engineers.

There was then an adjournment to the Armory, where were displayed the various cups and trophies won by the members of the Company, and what was as much to the purpose, something to put in them, wines and liquors for non-abstainers, and pure water for those who were. The health of the Queen was drunk with all honors, then the health of Capt. Parks, who responded in a very appropriate manner. Then Mr. Boyd's health was given and drunk, that gentleman, replying in his usual genial and witty manner, not omitting a joke at the expense of Col. Otty, whose health he proposed,

for being a bachelor, and whom he accused of 'going a courting,' though the Col. and he had been boys together, which by the way was the theme of a very pretty song which was sung by Mr. Hall.

Col. Otty in responding to the toast in his honor made some practical remarks on the duties of citizen soldiers, and the necessity for obedience and discipline which was the golden link which bound all ranks of the service together as one.

The health of the 62nd Battalion coupled with the name of Capt. Hazen, was then drunk and responded to by that officer in some pleasing remarks in which he expressed his gratification as a volunteer, at seeing so many of the Engineers present, and observing the spirit which animated them on the present occasion.

The prosperity of the press, coupled with the name of the representative of the *Telegraph and Journal* present, was then drunk and duly responded to, after which God save the Queen was sung, and the company separated after a most enjoyable evening. In addition to the speeches made several very fine songs were sung by members of the company. We are pleased to see such evidences of the prosperity and *esprit du corps* of the Engineers as last evening's presentation affords.

The *Invalide Russe* gives an account of the festival of the Knights of St. George, which was celebrated on the 8th instant in the Winter Palace, St. Petersburg, in the presence of the Emperor of Russia, Grand Master of the Order. All the knights who were in the capital, officers of the Guard and of the army and navy, attended, as well as Prince Charles of Prussia, Knight of the 3rd Class. The Emperor left his private apartments at half past one, and, accompanied by the knights, who had assembled in the saloons, proceeded to the Hall of St. George. During the progress of the procession the knights were saluted by the military who were drawn up in the different saloons through which they passed. In the Hall of St. George prayers were said by Monsignor. Isidore, Metropolitan of St. Petersburg and Novgorod, beneath the standard of St. George, which were afterwards defiled before the Emperor; after which the ceremonial dinner was served in the galleries to 562 soldiers decorated with the military order. The Emperor gave the toast in their honour, after which the Grand Duke Constantine proposed "The Emperor," a toast which the old soldiers drank with enthusiasm. At six p.m. the Emperor presided at a dinner to the knights, to those who had received golden swords or sabres of honour, and to all the officers decorated with the military order. The number of guests was 350. The Emperor proposed "The Emperor of Germany, the oldest of the Knights of St. George, and all the other Knights." Prince Charles of Prussia then proposed "The Emperor of Russia." After dinner the guests adjourned to the saloon, where the Emperor conversed for some time with several of the Knights of the Order.

The Duc d'Audiffret-Pasquier, President of the Committee of Inquiry into the conditions of the arsenals of France during the late War, had just addressed to the Minister of War a letter informing him that the investigation has been completed, and acknowledging the valuable aid afforded by the 600 military committees whose labors had supplied the materials for such investigation. This letter will be published in the *Journal Officiel* and in the order of the day to the Army.