

ANOTHER GERMAN ONE.

(Scene.—Officer catechising a recruit.)

Q. "On the approach of a general officer, if you were on sentry, what would you do?"

A. "I should 'present arms.'"

Q. "And if a lot of drunken people approached your post?"

A. "I should 'present arms.'"

Q. "Why?"

A. "In case there should happen to be a general officer among them." (Tableau.)
—*Volunteer Service Review.*

THE USES OF SPURS.

The story is told of Major O'Gorman, the well known Irish M.P., that, when appointed adjutant of the 23rd Lancashire Rifle Volunteers, he attended a musketry class at the Fleetwood school of musketry (now abolished). On a squad of volunteer officers falling in for position drill, a sergeant-instructor reminded Capt. O'Gorman he had his spurs on, to which the latter contemptuously replied, "Of course I have got my spurs on—I am an adjutant." The sergeant received a look from the officer-instructor to be silent, and the command was then given, "Position drill—third practice as a front rank kneeling—ready." This was promptly obeyed by every officer in the squad excepting one—that one, O'Gorman, asked leave to fall out and take his spurs off first.

This reminds us of another Irish major, in the Canadian militia, who was a most enthusiastic brigade musketry instructor. The fearful and wonderful contortions of the recruits in trying to acquire the kneeling position had tried him all day, till at last, with a burst of impatience at one particularly awkward specimen, who had his right foot sprawled away out behind him, he cried out, "Tut, man, you can never shoot steadily like that, get your foot well under you like this," and suiting the action to the word, by way of illustration, he came down on his spur with emphasis.

It is confidently asserted that the standing high jump Major W—— then made would have beaten the record, could it have been measured; of course discipline was at an end for that squad, and ever since he imitates Major O'Gorman, and leaves his spurs at home at musketry instruction.—PAT.

Queries and Replies.

I should like to hear the opinion of some of your readers on the following:—When inspecting a company, after the command "examine arms," from which flank does the officer commence in examining the rifles? Give reasons or authority.

SNAP CAP.

The Target.

TARGET PRACTICE BY NIGHT IN INDIA.

The following interesting account of a novel experiment is taken from the *Broad Arrow*. We are doubtful of the utility of such a practice, and would make a small bet that at 600 yards, at which distance it is suggested the practice should be, there would not be over two per cent of hits, and they would be flukes; especially if the distance were unknown:

"General Rowlands, commanding the Mysore division, has been carrying out target practice by night. The target fired at was 23 ft. wide by 6 ft. high, and the distance was 250 yards. The firing commenced at 7 p.m. The sky was clear, and there was no wind. The target was invisible from the firing point, and the shooters were guided by the occasional firing of a carbine from the marker's butt and by occasional flashes of a lantern on the targets. No use was made of the sights. A troop of the 12th Lancers, 47 strong, fired 10 volleys in single rank, 5 standing position and 5 sitting. The result was 78 hits on the target, or a percentage of hits to rounds fired of 16.06. A company of the 2nd battalion Oxfordshire light infantry, 50 strong, with rifle sights fixed at 300 yards, then fired 5 rounds kneeling by ranks as if from behind a parapet, the flashing of the lamp being dispensed with and only the carbine flashes to guide them. The result obtained was 52 hits out of 250 shots, or a percentage of 20.20 hits to rounds fired. The company then fired 5 volleys, with front rank kneeling and rear rank standing, the result being 42 hits, or a percentage of hits to rounds fired of 16.80. The night was too dark for the effective use of the sights, and there were very few ricochets. The flashing of the lamps was a mistake, as such a thing would not be met with on service. The carbine flashes from the butts are unobjectionable, as they might be viewed as representing the enemy's fire, but the distance fired at was too near, and the target in use too large, to be of any practical use. The target should be opened out to represent individuals (*ghurrahs* placed 3 ft. apart on a parapet would be suitable objects) and the distance should not be less than 600 to 800 yards. This kind of practice would teach the men the effect of fire by night, and they should be instructed to use what shelter may be obtainable at the firing point, so that the conditions under which the practice is carried out may, as nearly as possible, be assimilated to what may be expected in actual warfare. General Rowlands is to be congratulated on initiating night practice in India, and we hope to hear of their being generally adopted at all stations throughout India, where the ground in the vicinity of cantonments will allow of their being carried out with safety.

Regimental Notes.

(We wish to publish information respecting all the doings of all corps. Will the officers interested, particularly at a distance, assist us by having news relating to their corps promptly forwarded?)

St. John, N.B.—The 62nd Fusiliers have now nearly completed their annual drill, and will be inspected by the D.A.G. on the morning of Thanksgiving Day, 18th inst., in heavy marching order. This corps has been drilling steadily since June, and will probably turn out with full ranks for inspection. Battalion drills only are now held. The St. John Rifle Company will be inspected at the same time.

Winnipeg.—(From the *Manitoban*).—Major Jarvis has resigned his position in the field battery, and is to be succeeded by Capt. Coutlee.

The battery drills on Tuesday evenings at the drill hall. At present they are undergoing a course in the sword exercise under Capt. Coutlee.

The non-commissioned officers of the 90th battalion meet for instruction on Thursday evenings. Recruit drill is also held on the same night.

Under a regimental order dated on the 14th inst. an orderly officer of the 90th battalion is detailed for duty weekly. He is to visit the drill hall and armories at least once a day, and is to be present at the non-commissioned officers' class and recruit drill on Thursday evenings.

The Winnipeg light infantry had their usual parade on Tuesday night at the band room, Rorie street, and were duly initiated into the mysteries of the goose step by the efficient adjutant, Lieut. Lawlor.

Recruits for the 91st battalion band are still being received. The band is to consist of 48 instruments. Practice is held five times a week, and the bandmaster flatters himself that he will have the best band in Winnipeg before spring.

The Minister of Militia has decided to organize a company of rifles at Shoal Lake. A. H. Scouton, M.S., has been authorized to enroll the same. All who wish to become members can send in their applications to him. By order, G. W. Street, major military district No. 10.—*Shoal Lake Echo*

Quebec.—In the competition on the 28th, between A and B batteries, for the D.A.G. prizes, the latter battery won the shifting ordnance competition in 15 mins. 35 secs. The time for A battery was 16 mins. 18 secs.

The men of A battery, Kingston, are aggrieved. During past years the cost for transportation for one team has been allowed by the government. The rates on the railroad having been increased, the sum allowed by the government, \$150, is now inadequate. One hundred dollars additional were required, and the men had to start a subscription amongst themselves and raise the amount.

Montreal.—The sergeants of the Prince of Wales' rifles have completed all arrangements to hold their annual ball in the Queen's Hall, on the 9th, in honour of the birthday of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who is sponsor for the regiment. The invitation cards are very neat, being headed by the regimental crest, and printed in gold. Sergt. F. Lefebvre is again honorary secretary of the committee.

Ottawa.—The G.G.F.G. had battalion drill in the hall on Friday evening and subsequently marched out through the principal streets headed by their two bands. The turnout was not large.

Recruiting is proceeding satisfactorily and the new comers are pretty faithful in attendance at drill. They are well looked after by Capt. and Adjutant Hodgins and Sergt. Davis. The prescribed standard of height and chest measurement is in future to be more rigidly enforced against applicants for admission. The commanding officer is making it hot for those who do not attend drills regularly.

On Sunday afternoon the Guards and Dragoon Guards had a church parade, proceeding to Christ Church, accompanied by band and bugles, where a special service was held and an appropriate sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Mucklestone. The attendance was large and both corps looked and marched their best, encouraged by large crowds of spectators.

Capt. Jowsey, commanding No. 5 Co. of the 43rd Rifles, having resigned, it is proposed to transfer the headquarters of this company to Arnprior, where Mr. John A. Macdonald has received the preliminary blank forms from the Militia department for its enrolment. The company, which has already been recruited, is composed of the most active young men in the town.

Toronto.—The annual roll call of the Queen's Own was held at the drill shed, on Wednesday evening. The bad state of the weather no doubt kept some off parade, but as it was, the parade was a very large one, there being 594 officers, non-commissioned officers and men, including the band, buglers and pioneers. The roll was called by Paymaster Blain, and there were present besides him Lieut.-Col. Otter, D.A.G., Major Smith, C Co., I.S.C., acting brigade major, and Lieut.-Col. Alger, district paymaster. After the parade was dismissed, the members of the regimental tug-of-war team had some good practice. The team consists of 10 men and they pulled a scratch team of 17 men and the large gun of the garrison artillery.

It was announced in "orders" that Capt. Macdonald had been gazetted adjutant vice Capt. Delamere, who resigns the adjutancy only.

The Grenadiers paraded on Thursday, but as usual the weather was not of the best kind, so they were compelled to drill in the sheds. Lieut.-Col. Grasett was in command.

On Saturday afternoon the inspection of the Queen's Own and the Grenadiers took place on the Toronto baseball grounds, the inspecting officer being Major-General Sir Fred. Middleton. At half past three the two battalions were drawn up in line, and shortly afterwards the general arrived, accompanied by Capt. Wise, A.D.C. He was received with a general salute from both battalions. After riding down the lines, accompanied by Lieut.-Col. Otter, D.A.G., Major Smith and Lieut. Sears, C Co., I.S.C., and making a close inspection, the regiments broke into column to the right and marched past in column, quarter-column, and at the double, and all these movements were well executed by the battalions. The regiments then reformed line and were put through the manual and firing exercises by the majors. The major-general then asked Col. Miller to call out a captain to put the Queen's Own through some battalion movements. Capt. Brown was selected, and he handled the regiment in good style; Lieut. Morphy was also called out and acquitted himself in a most creditable manner. Col. Miller then took the regiment and formed square on the two centre companies at the double, and the crowd in the grand stand applauded this movement enthusiastically. After reforming line, Gen. Middleton made a similar inspection of the Grenadiers. The regiments then advanced in review order and presented arms. After congratulating the two commanding officers on the fine regiments they commanded the inspecting officer left the grounds. The regiments then marched to the drill shed and were dismissed, thus ending one of the best inspections ever held.

Major Smith's horse ran away with him on the grounds and threw its rider against the fence, but nothing more than a black eye was the result.

A rather serious accident happened to Major Harrison, of the Grenadiers, as the regiments were returning from the inspection. His horse slipped on the street car track and fell, with the major underneath, and broke his leg; the ambulance corps and surgeon of the regiment attended to him, until the ambulance arrived, when he was conveyed to his home.

Col. Miller informed the members of the regiment on returning to the shed that that was his last parade as commanding officer of the regiment. He hoped they would keep up the good name that the regiment had always had and now has, and it was with great regret that he was leaving, after being a member for 21 years. The colonel was very much moved when speaking, and all are very sorry to lose him.

The Major-General promised to be present at the tournament on Monday evening.

THE QUEEN'S OWN TOURNAMENT.

"'Twas a great success" says the *World* and so say all who attended the military