

army by the Medical Staff. After alluding to two medical officers who entered with his regiment at Lucknow, one of whom had obtained the V.C., he pointed to one case particularly, where 15 years ago a doctor engaged in an expedition in which this country was defeated, was shot through the back. Notwithstanding his great pain he gave instructions to one of the Army Medical Service men as to what he should do for the comfort of the wounded, and that man was also shot in both arms. Afterwards the enemy came up and treated them very kindly, and asked if there was anything they could do. The doctor asked them to attend to his orderly, and do what they could for him, directing them to inject morphia. The pain of the man was so great, however, that the doctor asked them to prop him up and bring the man to him, and he injected the morphia himself. That act of bravery deserved to be recorded in the history of the army, to be talked of and remembered in the medical schools, and in every regiment in the army. He urged upon all present to emulate such heroic deeds.

The question of bad ammunition was brought before the British House of Commons. Mr. Brodrick stated that the question of bad ammunition had been brought to the notice of the War Office by the vice-president of the N.R.A. The matter, he said, would be fully investigated by the inspector-general of ordnance.

Nearly 1,200 cyclists of all ranks, representing every regiment, corps and department in Aldershot, on the invitation of the Duke of Connaught, paraded in front of the Government House, so that His Royal Highness might form an approximate estimate of the number of wheelmen in the command. After inspecting the cyclists, the order was given to mount, and the duke placed himself at the head of the column.

That a saving will be the result of the new dress regulations is not considered in many quarters as likely to follow. Officers a few months ago had to provide themselves with new swords, and lately have been ordered to obtain a serge jacket of novel pattern. There are so many changes that it requires a good income to keep pace with the changes in dress and accoutrements ordered by a department which is not by any means lavish in its expenditure, when the state has to pay the bills. This matter will be brought before the House of Commons.

It is thought in certain official quarters that next year will witness a very important departure in the matter of the material employed in the manufacture of clothes for the army. It is stated that the question has been looked into very carefully by the Headquarters Staff and that Lord Wolseley has said that the uniform at present in use by the line regiments is not as it should be in the matter of health. A rougher, though different, texture has been advocated for both tunic and trousers. The color of the tunic is also being seriously considered.

R. M. C.

ST. JOHN MATTERS.

ST. JOHN, N.B., Aug. 26.—The annual competitions of the New Brunswick Provincial Rifle Association which closed last week at Sussex were very successful and some good scores were made. As you will no doubt have lists of the different matches, it will be unnecessary to speak of them here. There were about 100 competitors, which, though a little over the average, is a very small number for this province. The question of how to get the rank and file of the militia to take an interest and compete in these and local matches does not appear to have yet been solved; the reason in some cases probably is that the men are not encouraged regimentally, and shewn the importance of shooting, or stimulated by prizes at the annual target practice; still why should the officers be obliged to put their hands in their pockets for this purpose, when the Government almost ignore the shooting by battalions? If,

during the annual drill, some good company prizes were offered from Headquarters, say \$50 to best, and \$25 to second, and individual prizes for company and battalion shots, in addition, the result would be good shooting corps, and larger attendance at the rifle associations.

Both the artillery and Fusiliers are now hard at work at the annual drill; the latter hope to have inspection before the Fall Exhibition; which opens in September. Major McLean is now in command in the absence of Lieut.-Col. Tucker, and some good work is being got in. On Friday evening of this week a special battalion drill will be held and some friends of the corps invited. A church parade and some route marches will be next in order. New uniforms are now being issued to the 62nd.

There will be no brigade fall camp in this district this year. The 8th P.L. Hussars go into regimental camp at Sussex on the 29th Sept. The 71st York Battalion and the Brighton Engineers about the same time will have camps at or near local headquarters.

It is to be hoped that the Militia Department will soon be looking into the needs of the militia in general. We want more uniformity all round, more system, less red tape, and some encouragement for both officers and men to remain in and join the force. Here in St. John we want above everything else a new drill shed; the present one is too far away, is unsuitable to our needs, is in sore want of repairs, while a new one can be built in a central locality at a comparatively small cost, the old one being then handed over to the Exhibition Association, who each year have to hire the building for part of their exhibits. Let our Maritime Minister of Militia work on this at once; he will be ably seconded by the New Brunswick members in general, and the St. John M.P.'s in particular. We must have a new drill shed.

Lieut. Hetherington, M.D., of the 62nd Fusiliers, who has been on a three months trip to England and the Continent, has returned to duty.

The Hon. Dr. Borden, M.P., Minister of Militia, spent a few hours here on his way to Ottawa, and was entertained at the Union Club by Major McLean, when he had an opportunity of meeting the C.O.'s of corps.

The St. John Rifle Company are the first corps here to benefit by the new rule which enables C.O.'s to learn what the inspecting officer thinks of them without waiting for a year or more, when they have forgotten all the little details of the inspection. The following is the report of the inspection:

The full strength of the company is 45 of all ranks, and 44 were present on parade. The company figure of merit is 143.10. In drill and interior economy the company obtained 109 points of a possible 122—considerably better than last year. In his remarks Col. Maunsell says: "This is a smart, efficient company, composed of an excellent class of young men. They were soldier-like in appearance, their equipment and clothing in good order, and the drill for the most part well performed, especially in half companies and sections and in extended order by signal. The discipline is good, and there is marked improvement in the carrying out of the half company and section system required by Sec. VII. Queen's Regulations. The officers of the corps are zealous and efficient."

Following a competition in this company for the best non-commissioned officer, another test has been held to decide the best drilled man in the ranks. The examination came off on the 6th inst., when Majors Sturdee and Magee, of the Fusiliers, were the judges. Twelve men were examined, in two squads of six each, and the best picked out from each, who were then put through several movements. Finally, after a very close contest, Pte. Doig was declared the winner of the medal presented by Lieut. Tilley for the best drilled man, with Corpl. Doig and Pte. Powers very close behind. The winner of the medal for the best non-commissioned