

Corp. W. Carter, "C" company. To be corporal, Lance-Corp. G. Sparling, "C" company, vice Foley, promoted. To be lance-corporal, Pte. F. Gilbert, "C" company.

Col-Sergt. Jack is suffering from a paralytic stroke caused by the fatigue and exposure in the North-West. His company will miss him as he has always been a hard working non-com, of which there are not too many.

There will be another church parade for the "Grens" on Nov. 3rd. Capt. Harston of "C" Co. is moving towards the formation of a company fund for the better equipment and clothing of the company.

THE QUEEN'S OWN.

On Saturday afternoon last the Queen's Own Rifles paraded at the drill shed and marched to the Garrison Commons, where they practised the new attack formation under Lt. Col. Otter. Before they commenced he gave them a short lecture on the formation and movements, and then they advanced on the point of attack simply to drill the men and officers. They were then retired to the starting point and had blank ammunition issued to them, after which they again advanced to the attack amid the crackling of the small arms and the boom of the artillery of the enemy. When at about 150 yards distance, under cover of the smoke, the supports and reserve reinforced and then with a ringing British cheer, such as might have done credit to the Guards at Waterloo, they charged the position and took it with the bayonet.

It made the flank men "weary" to be ordered to lie down and die, because they had to give up their ammunition, and their fun was done. One of the "casualties" died very hard, judging by the way his legs waved aloft.

Capt. of Co.—Mr. Lloyd, rush your half company.

Lt. Lloyd.—You forget sir, I am dead; Sergt. Higginbotham is in command now.

Capt. Mutton's little whistle attracted a great deal of attention.

Lt.-Col. Dawson of the "Grens" was an interested spectator. So were Capt. Manley, Elliott, Michie and Gibson. The Grenadiers are going to have a similar practice on Saturday next.

Last Wednesday evening the Queen's Own received the prizes won at the recent regimental matches.

Massachusetts vs. New York

(Forest and Stream).

As the outcome of the matches shot at Creedmoor during the annual fall prize meeting of the National Rifle Association, a novel competition has been proposed by the Twenty-third Regiment of Brooklyn. In the inter-State match at 200 and 500 yds. the Massachusetts twelve, firing ten shots at each distance, beat the Pennsylvanians and the New Yorkers by 10 and 20 points respectively. In the Hilton trophy match, seven shots each at 200, 500 and 600 yds., the "world beaters" won by the narrow majority of 2 points over Pennsylvania's and 5 points over New York's team. [By reason of the unexpected enforcement of the time-limit for completing the match, two men of the Pennsylvania team were not able to complete their scores at the 600 yards range; otherwise the trophy would have gone to Pennsylvania.—ED. C. M. GAZ.]

The two teams first named shot with the Springfield rifle, .45 cal., equipped with the celebrated Buffington sights, which gave their members the advantage of employing the most improved arm known to the military service. The New York team, on the other hand, made its score with the Remington rifle, a .50 cal. weapon, having only "open" sights, and derisively termed the "gas-pipes." The closeness of the competition was a decided disappointment to the Massachusetts marksmen, inasmuch as it opened up the crucial question of men or rifles. Under the circumstances the "world beaters" should have won by a decisive majority, and left their less-fortunately-equipped competitors far in the rear. Having failed in the accomplishment of this result, the Massachusetts men began to cast about for the reason of the narrowness of their victory. They were satisfied that they had shot the best "military gun" in the world, since the experiments of the experts of the United States Army, foremost among whom stands Capt. Greer, the ordnance officer under whose supervision Fort Hill, at the State Camp of Instruction at Peekskill-on-Hudson, was constructed, had demonstrated such to be the fact, and there could be no doubt that the ammunition employed by them, and which was specially loaded by Government employees at the Springfield Armory, could not be surpassed.

The "world beaters" were accordingly anxious to ascertain the reason for the close call to which they had been subjected, and this expressed anxiety led to the following proposition from the 23rd Regiment of Brooklyn. Through Major Heyward C. Brown, captain of the rifle team of "Ours," it was proposed that an exchange of rifles should be made, and a match shot between the experts of New York and Massachusetts, either at Walnut Hill, Boston, at Creedmoor, or on some neutral range, such as Mount Gretna Park, Pennsylvania, or Sea Girt, N.J., as might be determined, the teams to consist of six, eight, ten or twelve men, as warranted by circumstances.

On behalf of the 23d Regiment Major Broun stipulated to furnish the Massachusetts men with a sufficient number of Remington rifles for team practice, Major Hinman to supply the 23rd Regiment team with a corresponding number of Springfields. Equal opportunities for practice should be afforded the contestants preliminary to the deciding shoot, the only condition insisted upon by the Brooklyn men being that the Massachusetts team should be selected wholly from some one regiment of the Volunteer Militia of that State, it being held that it would be unfair to compel a New York regimental team to shoot against the pick of the shooting men of the Commonwealth as represented by the "world beaters."

The match is likely to be made, since both sides are eager for the contest, and it is quite possible that it may be arranged to be brought about before the close of the current shooting season.

Military Bands.

The military bands of the United States are the subject of a very interesting article contributed to *Harper's Weekly* of Sept. 28, by Leon Mead. There are, it appears, over 10,000, averaging in the cities 25 men; in country towns 12 to 18 members. Despite the humorous and sarcastic depreciation they have received from the press, the military bands of the country are doing a great educational work among the people. They dispense both the popular and higher class music of the day in remote sections where the inhabitants are unable to hear them at first hand, and without their local band they would perhaps never hear them at all. Among the various nationalities represented in the military bands, the Germans, reliable as performers and steady-going in temperament, predominate ten to one. In the larger cities the Italians come next in numbers. There are comparatively few French musicians in this country; the number of native Americans being the smallest in the list, though they are increasing year by year. As musicians the English, Irish and Scotch belong to about the same artistic grade, no appreciable superiority of skill or accomplishment being possessed by one over the other. Curiously enough, the best musicians are usually very nervous men. Their sensibilities seem to attain an almost abnormal development. They are easily excited or irritated, often by trifling causes, which always keeps them on the edge of a row with one or more of their associates. It scarcely seems credible that divine melody could be such a strain on the nervous system. Yet the fine musician usually possesses a delicate, uneven temper, and though playing like an angel before the public, he may act like a demon behind the scenes. The bands that receive special mention for excellence are the Marine band, Sousa leader; D. W. Reeve's American band, Providence, R. I., and Cappa's Seventh Regt. band. But a large part of the article is occupied with a record of the triumph of Patrick Sarsfield Gilmore, who "to-day stands without a peer in his line in this country if not abroad." Poor and unknown he landed in Boston in 1848. He was only 19, but his rare abilities were promptly recognized. Ten years later, in 1858, he organized his own band, having meanwhile been the leader successively of the Suffolk band, of Boston, the Boston Brigade band, and the Salem band. Signor Carlo Alberto Cappa is singularly well fitted for the responsible position of bandmaster of the leading regiment of the National Guard. He is 55 years of age, having been born at Alessandria, in Piedmont, in 1834. His father was a major in Napoleon's army, and died from a wound received during the retreat from Moscow. Carlo began his musical studies at the age of ten. After a five years' course in the Royal Academy at Asti—devoted exclusively to the instruction of sons of soldiers—he joined the band of the 6th Lancers, in which he played the first trombone. Remaining in the army for four years, he then enlisted in the U. S. navy, and in the frigate *Congress* made a two years' cruise. On his arrival in New York, in 1858, Cappa, then a stalwart young man of 24, joined Kendall's band, and, later on, the 7th Regt. band, when Grafulla became its leader, in 1860. Though Cappa has served in the 7th Regt. for 29 years—for the last eight years as its leader—his service has not been continuous. From 1869 to 1876 he played first trombone in the Theodore Thomas orchestra. He also played the euphonium in the orchestra of the Mapleson Opera Co. for three years."

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