

Regimental News.

A meeting of the local officers of the military district, was held at Winnipeg on the 8th inst., at Col. Villier's office, to discuss the advisability of holding a garrison ball on the evening of the 24th of May next. A very large and representative gathering assembled, each branch of the service being liberally represented. Lieut. Col. Boswell, of the 90th, presided over the meeting. After considerable discussion, it was not deemed advisable to hold the ball at the date first mentioned, on account of the approach of summer. Early in the fall of the year the idea will be carried out, when, on account of the interest displayed, a great success is expected.

Quebec.

The officers and men of the 8th Royal Rifles give a musical and dramatic performance at the Academy of Music on Easter Monday, the proceeds of which go to purchase new band instruments. All taking part are hard at work practising and doing their best to present a most attractive programme.

The funeral of the late Mr. Andrew Sword, messenger of the Merchants Bank in this city, took place on the 8th inst. from his residence on St. Peter street. Deceased was interred with military and masonic honours, having been for some time color-sergeant of No. 1 Company 8th Royal Rifles, and lately elected D.D.G.M. for Quebec and Three Rivers. The order of procession was:—a firing party of 20 men of the 8th in charge of Colour-Serjt H. Morgan, the band of the battalion, Albion Lodge A. F. & A. M., and a couple of representatives of sister lodges, wearing regalia. The body drawn on a gun carriage by six horses of "B" Battery, the coffin covered with the Union Jack and bearing the sword and the helmet of the deceased and several bouquets of flowers upon the top. Six sergeants were pall-bearers, and after the body came the main portion of the 8th Battalion in reversed order, the officers bringing up the rear. Detachments were present from the 9th Battalion "B" Battery, Queens Own Canadian Hussars and Cavalry School, and the citizens who were mourners followed.

Toronto.

The first battalion parade this season of the Royal Grenadiers took place last Thursday. Lt.-Col. Dawson was absent, owing to indisposition and Major Mason was in command. There were about 250 men in the ranks and a fair turnout of officers. The men were drawn up in six companies and put through their manual and firing exercises, after which the different companies were drilled by their respective officers. There were about 50 recruits under corporal Allen. Among the orders read out were these:

The undermentioned provisionally appointed non-commissioned officers having passed the necessary examinations the commanding officer has been pleased to confirm their respective appointments, to date from April 4th, 1889:

To be Colour-Sergeant—Colour-Sergeant H. Milson "C" Company.
To be Sergeants—Sergt. W. Rogers, "H" Co.; Sergt. A. Price, "C" Co.

To be Corporals—Corpl. H. Dye, "C" Co.; Corpl. P. Kingston, "C" Co.; Corpl. T. Dean, "D" Co.; Corpl. E. Jeffries, "F" Co.; Corpl. C. Coe, "H" Co.; Corpl. H. Macdonald, "H" Co.

The undermentioned having passed the Board of Examination for rank as stated the same is published for information: For the rank of Sergeant—Pte. P. Foley, "C" Co.; Lance-Sergeant C. Coughlin, "B" Co.; Pte. Martin "D" Co.; Lance-Sergeant Geo. Scully, "D" Co.; Pte. W. Smith, "D" Co.

For the rank of Corporal—Lance-Corporal G. Sparling, "E" Co.; Lance-Corporal Freemantle, "D" Co.; Pte. H. Hyden, "G" Co.; Pte. J. Patterson, "A" Co.; Pte. F. Gildert, "C" Co.; Pte. W. Carter, "C" Co.; Pte. W. Towers, "A" Co.; Lance-Corporal J. Brodie, "C" Co.; Corp. G. Bennett, "G" Co.; Pte. M. Curteis, "D" Co.; Pte. H. W. Broome, "H" Co.; Pte. L. Gurofsky, "H" Co.; Lance-Corporal J. W. Robertson, "B" Co.

There were 30 applicants for the corporal, and 12 for the sergeant's examinations just finished. Those who failed will be permitted to try again in November. The sergeant-major's class will commence at the close of the spring drill, and continue until the examination.

The new white helmets ordered for the regiment, to be paid for not by the government but out of the battalion funds, are expected to arrive shortly and will be worn at the first church parade. They will not supersede the busbies, but are intended for warm weather. Nothing definite has been settled about the 24th of May outing, but it is expected the regiment will leave the city for that day.

A scheme has been adopted to reduce to a minimum the losses of arms, accoutrements, and clothing, which annually occur. Last year the officers paid out of their own pockets, about \$500 to the government to meet these shortages. They were all caused by carelessness of individual men. In future, every man in the regiment will be required to deposit from his annual drill pay \$2, to cover any shortages in his own company. No company will contribute anything to pay for deficiencies in other companies. At the end of the season after paying for any deficiencies, the balance is to be handed back to the individual members. In this way every member of the company takes as much interest in its belongings as the captain. It is more than likely that each man will receive back the full amount of his deposit.

The Rifle.

The annual meeting of the Ottawa Rifle Club was held on Tuesday evening 9th inst., the President, Major H. F. Perley, in the chair. Officers for the year were chosen: President, Major Perley, re-elected; 1st Vice-President, Dr. Geo. Hutchison; 2nd Vice, Capt. S. M. Rogers; Sec.-Treas., Lieut. E. D. Sutherland (re-elected); Committee, Major Wright, Capt. Gray, and Mr. J. P. Nutting; Auditors, Messrs. J. D. Holbrook and L. C. Gooding. It was decided to have eighteen spoon competitions this season as last. For the purposes of these the members will be divided into three classes in place of two as formerly. At each competition prizes will be offered in each class as follows: For three entries and under ten, one teaspoon; ten entries and under sixteen, a dessert spoon or fork, at winner's option; if more than sixteen entries, a dessert spoon or fork and a tea spoon. When a member of the second or third class has won thrice, he will be placed in the next class.

The executive at a subsequent meeting drew up the programme for the season. The weekly competitions will be alternately Snider and Martini, commencing with a Snider match on the 20th of April. On the Saturdays falling on the 25th of May and the 29th of June, there will be no competitions, as Queen's Birthday and Dominion Day observances will no doubt call a large number of members out of town. The last competition before the midsummer intermission will be on the 10th August, and the programme will be resumed on the 14th September, winding up on the 28th. All the competitions will be at Queen's ranges, except those on the 6th July and 3rd August, which will be at 800 and 900 yards. On the 27th July and 10th August the position at 200 yards will be standing only.

Aggregate prizes will be offered for the highest aggregate of five Snider scores; for the highest aggregate of four Martini scores at Queen's ranges; and for the total of these two aggregates. The prizes will be the D. R. A. and O. R. A. silver and bronze medals.

The Brandon Rifle Association, held their annual meeting on the 4th inst., at F. J. Chubb's restaurant, when the following officers were elected: Patrons, T. M. Daly, M. P., Judge Walker, C. Sifton, M. P. P., Col. McMillan, 95th battalion; president, W. Huston; 1st vice, J. Burton; second vice, A. Malloy; secretary-treasurer, Peter McGregor; council, T. E. Huston, Chief of Police, Duncan J. A. Shunnaman, J. Taylor, A. Gothard, W. Shillinglaw, F. J. Chubb. The association propose opening the range about the 1st of May, and on the 24th of May will have a match. A weekly spoon competition is to be in order. Several first class prizes are to be given by prominent gentlemen, to successful competitors during the season.

Capt. Harston's Rifle.

(From the Toronto World.)

Capt. C. Greville-Harston, of the Royal Grenadiers, and who was Acting Brigade Major in the Northwest rebellion, returned to Toronto on Wednesday, accompanied by Mrs. Harston, and both are glad to be back with their old friends in this city. Captain Harston has been away for two years all but four months, and during that time has entirely devoted himself to the matter of turning Martini-Henry rifles into repeating rifles. The *World* went to the Armoury last evening, and there saw the Captain with his full red beard and moustache, as of yore; he was ruddy-faced and healthy; he was in plain clothes, talking to his men of "E" Company, which has lately been under the command of Lieut. Cecil Gibson, and he looked as if his old Grenadier uniform could not be buttoned up on him.

Captain Harston's name has become familiar among those interested in the improvements of the Martini-Henry rifle. In a chat with the *World* last night he told of how the idea was born. In 1886 he went up to British Columbia on a business trip, and on returning read a report by