

THE DOMINION ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Dominion Artillery Association was held on 16th inst. in the railway committee room. It was, as usual, honored by the presence of His Excellency the Governor-General. There were present Major-General Herbert; Lieut.-Col. Cole, Montreal Garrison Artillery; Lt.-Col. Macdonald, Guelph; Major Stewart, Ottawa Field Battery; Lt.-Col. Irwin, Inspector of Artillery; Captain and Adjutant Reid, Montreal Garrison Artillery; Major Wicksteed, retired list; Lieut.-Col. Cotton, assistant inspector of artillery; Major King, Welland Field Battery; Lieut.-Col. Panet, deputy Minister of Militia; Lieut.-Col. John Macpherson, Lieut.-Col. Macdonald, Hon. John Ferguson, and several others. The Governor was attended by Major St. Aubyn, military secretary. Hon. J. C. Patterson, Minister of Militia, was also present.

The chair was taken by Lieut.-Col. Cole, of Montreal, who moved the adoption of the report, which was seconded by Capt. Reid, and agreed to.

The treasurer's report showed receipts of \$4,659, including \$2,000 from the federal government, and expenditure of \$4,089.

Lieut.-Col. Irwin, as chairman of the executive committee, reviewed the work done during the past year. The majority of our field batteries were as efficient as could be expected. He urged the necessity of securing a new range for Ontario artillery practice, on Wolfeisland, near Kingston, if possible. Thanks were tendered to Col. Gzowski for his gift of a cup for the drill and driving competition. The efficiency competitions showed a most gratifying condition of efficiency, all the 17 field and all but 8 of the garrison batteries having obtained more than 50 per cent of all possible credits. The report was supported by Lieut.-Col. Cotton, who spoke at some length upon last year's competitions at Kingston.

The usual vote of thanks to His Excellency the Governor-General was adopted, upon motion of Lieut.-Col. Macdonald, who expressed the sympathy of the association with His Excellency and Lady Stanley in the sorrow which overhangs them.

His Excellency returned thanks in his usual happy manner, and after stating his gratitude for the expression of sympathy, said that he was glad to be able to announce that the news from London was this morning so much more encouraging that he was able to attend their meeting. He hoped that the association would long flourish, for it filled a position which no official body could fill. While he could not say that he had during his five years of office seen any marked improvement in the ordnance, he was glad that there seemed to be a prospect of remedying this defect. After complimenting Hon. J. C. Patterson upon his appointment as minister of militia, he pointed out that there was not the same need for ordnance protection in Canada as in some other countries, for at Halifax the station was entirely under Imperial control, while that on the Pacific coast was partly under that control. He urged, however, that the ordnance of the service should be improved and brought up to date. The association should be careful to respect the rights of property in the matter of ranges, for shells and short horns would never thrive together. He was very glad to see that the House of Commons was this year asked to vote \$20,000 for field battery equipment. In conclusion he wished the association all success and assured them that should this be the last occasion on which he should address them, he would always watch with interest the doings of the association.

A vote of thanks to the Dominion government, proposed by Majors King and Stewart, were replied to by Hon. Mr. Patterson, who promised to help the Association as much as possible. The department would do everything possible to secure a range for artillery practice in Ontario.

The Hamilton Powder Company was given a vote of thanks for its usual donation.

Major-General Herbert made a short address upon the work of the Association, and urged more practical gunnery upon the artillerymen of the country. It was important that use should be made of range-finders in the re-organization of the field artillery which must take place without delay. The field battery should be the most practical military unit, but he could not say that the Canadian batteries came up to that

description. The Dominion would not be justified in going to the enormous expense required to purchase modern heavy ordnance, but the country should help along the desire of the artillerymen to do as efficient service as possible. Every member of the Canadian militia should recognize the fact that there was something to be learned every day, and that they could not afford to stand still. He dwelt at some length upon the value of the visit of artillerymen last year to Halifax, and of the information as to modern ordnance obtained by the inspection of the Halifax forts, which he urged should be repeated this year. They should look ahead and keep abreast of the times as much as possible.

Lieut.-Col. Cole thoroughly endorsed the proposal to make Halifax the scene of the annual garrison drills, which was eventually adopted by the Council.

His Excellency claimed the privilege of again addressing the meeting, and in a few complimentary words moved a vote of thanks to the chairman for the able manner in which he had conducted the meeting. The resolution was seconded by the Hon. the Minister of Militia. Lieut.-Col. in replying thanked his Excellency for his kind words, and while regretting that the present would probably be the last meeting at which they would have the honour of welcoming him, he assured his Excellency that the members of the Artillery Association would ever have a grateful and pleasant remembrance of the kindly interest he had always taken in their work and deliberations.

The Council meeting was held after the general meeting. There were present. Lieut.-Cols. Irwin, Cotton, Macdonald, Cole, Majors King and Stewart, Capt. Donaldson.

Lieut. Col. Cole, vice-president, in the chair.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

President: Major Crawford Lindsay, Quebec.

Vice-Presidents: Lieut.-Col. Irving, Charlottetown; Lieut.-Col. Cole, Montreal; Major King, St. Catherines; Major Maxwell, Halifax.

Executive Committee: Lieut.-Cols Macdonald and Cole.

Secretary-Treasurer: Capt. Donaldson.

It was decided that in the event of His Excellency the Governor General leaving for England, during the year, that an address be prepared and presented to him from the Association. - Preparation left to the Executive Committee-- Carried.

It was decided that the Executive Committee be authorized to take such steps as may be necessary to obtain the sanction of the proper authorities to the continuation of the Garrison Artillery Meeting at Halifax, N.S.

It was agreed that all arrangements as to messing be left in the hands of the Association, and that the charges for messing from the arrival of detachments at the station until marched out of camp be deducted from the allowance.

The Council recommend for the consideration of the Department, the appointment of a board of officers to examine and report upon any locality found suitable for a land range in the Province of Ontario.

All arrangements for carrying out annual practice and preparation of prize-list were left to the Executive Committee, which consists of the two elected members, Lieut.-Cols. Macdonald and Cole, as well as Lieut.-Cols. Irwin, Montzambert and Cotton as *ex-officio*.

THE PRINCE OF WALES PRIZE AT BISLEY.

Canadian Riflemen will be interested in knowing that at the meeting of the National Rifle Association on February 22nd, a proposal will be submitted for throwing open the Prince of Wales's Prize of £100 at Bisley to all holders of the Association's gold, silver, and bronze medals. Hitherto the competition has been restricted to holders of the silver and bronze medals, each of whom has been allowed to shoot once on account of each medal won; and the new proposal will admit winners for the Queen's Prize - with which the gold medal is given - and allow them and the other medal winners to compete for the prize at every meeting, abolishing the restriction of one shoot for one medal.