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News of the Service.

NOTE.—Our readers are respectfully requested to contribute to this department all items of Military News affecting their own corps, districts or friends, coming under their notice. Without we are assisted in this way we cannot make this department as complete as we would desire. Remember that all the doings of every corps are of general interest throughout the entire militia force. You can mail a large package of manuscript, so long as not enclosed in an envelope, for one cent. At any rate, forward copies of your local papers with all references to your corps and your comrades. Address.

EDITOR, CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE
P.O. Box, 2179, Montreal, Que.

Halifax, N. S.

At the annual meeting of the officers of the First Canadian Regiment of Artillery, they were presented by Sergt.-Major Gibbs with a handsome goat. He was at once taken on the strength, placed on regimental rations, and will look after the "Butts."—*Acadian Recorder, Jan, 14th.*

On the 13th inst. the officers of 1st Regiment C.A., held their meeting, every officer in the corps being present. Some very important business was transacted and the usual committees appointed.

On the 21st inst. the officers of 66th P.L.F., held their annual meeting. After some business being transacted the meeting was adjourned, when the officers repaired to the residence of the commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. Humphrey, where he entertained them to a sumptuous repast and a good time generally.

Many officers of the City Brigade of Militia are attending the course of instruction in Infantry Sword Exercise 1895, now being held in the Military Gymnasium on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Sergeant Instructor Long, Berkshire Regiment, is the instructor.

The sergeants of 1st Halifax Regiment, C.A., received a handsome group of the sergeants of 2nd Montreal Regiment, C.A. They acknowledged its receipt in the same way, but they desire to publicly return thanks to their brothers in arms for their kindly remembrance of them.

Since your last issue, Mr. Lawlor, the man whose services had been dispensed with in the militia stores of this district, has been re-instated as quietly as he was discharged. Perhaps the paragraph which

appeared in Gravelcrusher's last communication to you had something to do with it. Anyhow, we are glad to see a wrong righted.

SUCCESSFUL SLEIGH DRIVE

OF N. C. O.'S FIRST REGIMENT CANADIAN ARTILLERY.

The sixth annual sleigh drive and dinner of the non-commissioned officers of the 1st Regiment Canadian Artillery (up to this year known as Halifax Garrison Artillery) came off to Wilson's yesterday afternoon, leaving the Drill Shed at 3:30 in 3 fours and 3 doubles. The fours were presided over by the veteran, "Joe" McDonald, Thos. Robinson, jr., and Wm. Robinson; Dimock and Lloyd drove two of the doubles, while Corporal George Robinson, in uniform, drove a double which contained the senior non-commissioned officers. The genial William Wilson was at the door and welcomed the guests. Soon they were comfortably seated, enjoying themselves with various games and dancing. The dinner bell was gladly welcomed about 7 o'clock, when the company of 85 took their seats at the table to discuss the following military menu:

Soup.
Direct Action, Royal Laboratory,
Pettmanns General Service,
Middle Sensitive,
Joints.
Roast Common, Boiled Palliser
Deville Shrapnel,
Stewed Case, Broiled Grape,
Jointed Rammers, with Ropes.
Sauce.
Prism, Slow Burning Cocoa,
Extra Experimental, Pebble,
Rifle Large Grain, Quick Firing.
Vegetables.
Junk Wads, Wedge Wads, Driving Bands,
Shell Ganges,
Shell Extractors, Filling Rods,
Sweets (Artillery),
Sheers, Derricks, Pile Drivers,
Sling Carts, Iron Crabs, Holdfasts.
Dessert.
Fishing Spars, Admiralty and Bothway.
Blocks, Skids, Scotches, Rollers,
Handspikes, Levers, Inside Clinches.
Sulphide of Antimony Tea,
Fulmate of Mercury Coffee.
Relief.
Transporting Barrows,
Stretchers, Ambulance Carts.

Sergeant-Major Gibbs was chairman, and Sergt. Kiddy vice-chairman.

The first toast was "The Queen," proposed by the chairman and drank. "God Save the Queen" was sang with much more fervor than ever.

"Our Colonel and Officers," proposed

by vice-chairman, and responded to by all the officers present. Col. Curren, in response, said that they had as a guest Major King, of the Montreal Artillery, the regiment that had beaten them by 7 points in alround efficiency, but hoped to regain it next year, and said he expected the drill shed would probably be finished about the fall of '97, and that quite a space had been allotted to the Artillery, and would probably have recreation rooms, Major Stewart also made a very neat speech and dealt considerably with the war question.

More toasts, more songs, and more speeches followed, the fun lasting till late in the evening, Halifax being reached at about 1:30 a.m.—*Acadian Recorder, Jan, 24th.*

GRAVELCRUSHER.

Belleville.

The XV Battalion are fortunate in having such an untiring commanding officer as Lt.-Col. W. N. Ponton. He is hard at work arousing the latent enthusiasim of the Belleville boy's, and with his able staff it will be astonishing if, as he says it, the 15th battalion does not parade in the coming drill season with every one of its six companies overstrength. As Col. Ponton puts it in a letter to the Belleville papers: "Are the young men of today not as loyal as the young men of twenty five years ago? Are they not as anxious to enroll themselves as citizen soldiers, and stand ready at a moments notice to defend their country from foes without or foes within? We believe they are, and we hope to hear of many of them handing in their name to the officers, and helping make the good old Fifteenth as popular and efficient as strong as it ever was. As for remuneration it should receive but little consideration. We do not want patriotism founded on mercenary motives. Let our young men qualify themselves to defend their native land from a love of their country and its institutions. One such soldier is worth a dozen who think only of the money four or six dollars they may receive. Col. Ponton well says for such men he has no use. But he has use for young men who love Canada and w