

wasted, but who believes that they are not when they remember such men as Stairs, Mackay and all the other fine young fellows who graduated from the college and are now winning names for themselves in the Imperial Army? The members of the Government are apparently the only people who are sceptical, and yet in Parliament they regularly make a pretence of justifying the maintenance of the college. They are not so sceptical though, as they are too anxious to turn these appointments to the best possible political use. This is the explanation of these appointments. If it isn't what is?

The correspondence now going on in these columns regarding the troubles of rural corps, shows pretty clearly that the officers of the corps in question are fully alive to the fact that a radical change is necessary if the rural battalions are to be placed on a sound footing. Some few are in an efficient state, it is true, but they comprise a very small proportion of the whole. Some country officers think that an increase of pay would effect the desired improvement by inducing a better class of men to enlist, and nearly everybody admits that it is a perfect farce to continue the present system of holding camps of instruction, without the term of drill is increased to at least twenty days. Under the present system the public money is simply frittered away and it should not continue another drill season. The problem the country has to face is this: Is it best to increase the annual expenditure to keep up the active militia to its present strength in a state of efficiency, to disband half the existing corps and use the money hitherto used on them in putting those remaining in a fairly efficient state, or to continue as at present, spending a certain amount of money on a large number of paper battalions and getting nothing or very little in return.

What about those long service decorations? Don't all speak at once please.

It is not very likely that we shall hear anything further about the new rifles until the Government is brought under the suction of the opposition force pump in Parliament. This delay in receiving the first consignment is ominous. It is to be hoped that there is to be no further delay in re-arming the infantry, and moreover devoutly to be wished that the new weapon will not be issued in dribblets, as is threatened. By the bye has the ammunition for the Martini-Metford been decided upon yet?

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. A. any rate forward copies of your local papers with all references to your corps and your comrades.

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TORONTO.

The Queen's Own turned out 563 strong Oct. 5th for the usual weekly drill and march through the streets. The regimental orders contained a notice of the promotion of Corp. William Cowan to the rank of sergeant in the place of Sgt. Higginbotham, who has left the regiment and a note of the appointment of Color Sgt. Vicars to the position of sergeant master took.

October 4th a special meeting of C Company, Royal Grenadiers, was held in their armory at the drill shed. Some time ago the company decided to distribute the sum of \$25 to the members who made the best scores in the regimental match held on Saturday, 1st. This was argued by a donation from Capt. Caston, and the meeting the other night was called for the purpose of dividing the money in a proper manner among the successful shots. This was done as follows: Sergt. Quinney \$5, Corp. Hornshaw \$4, Corp. Bell \$3, Col. Sgt. Sparling, Pte. Parkers, Pte. Lagier, and Pte. Green \$2 each, Ptes. Beatty, Dangerfield, Botsford, Lewis, Hussey, Young, Sgt. Russel and Corp. Leith \$1 each. A gold regimental pin, valued at \$6, and presented by Lt. Chadwick for the best score at 400 yards, was won by Sgt. Quinney. Three medals given for those who made the highest total score for the whole season went to Corp. Bell, Pte. A. Young and Pte. T. Legier. C Company also claim to have had the highest average attendance at the butts for the season just closed.

The 48th Highlanders paraded on the night of October 7th at old Upper Canada College, with Major Cosby in command. Owing to the unfavorable weather there was no march out, but the companies were dismissed to their several parades for company drill. The regiment is getting into good shape for inspection. The parade state was over 350.

The Royal Grenadiers paraded at the drill shed, October 6th, 473 strong, with Major Mason in command. The regiment marched out by way of Jarvis and Adelaide streets to Old Upper Canada College grounds, where company drill was engaged in for a couple of hours. Among the orders are the following: To be sergeant, Lce. Sgt. J. McDonald, H Company; Lce. Sgt. E. Oke, I Company; to be lance sergeants, Corp. J. Elmer, H Company, and Corp. J. E. Farrie, I Company; to be corporal, Lce. Corp. L. Keele, II Company; to be lance corporals, Ptes. E. Taylor and M. Lambert, H Company, and M. B. Howard, I Company. During the

absence on leave of Captain Gibson Lt. Stimson will take charge of D Company. At a meeting of the officers held after the parade, it was decided to hold three assemblies during the coming winter.

Capt. Chas. A. Hunter, of the 48th Highlanders, is lying seriously ill at his residence, No. 15 Classic avenue. Drs. Strange and Dame are in attendance, and it is hoped they may pull him through, although for some time his recovery was considered very doubtful.—The Empire, October 6th.

The annual rifle match of the 12th Batt., York Rangers, took place at the rifle ranges, October 6th. The day was very favorable for good shooting, and some good scores were made. It was dull in the forenoon, but clear in the afternoon, there being a right wind of medium strength. It will be noticed that Staff Sgt. Roman was first in the three principal matches, and his splendid shooting yesterday shows he is a shot of whom any regiment might well be proud. Although not one of the six members of the 12th Batt. who are on next year's Bisley team, he succeeded in beating them all, a record which speaks for itself. He is known in the regiment as the most enthusiastic shot in the battalion, and when he stepped forward to receive his prizes he was heartily cheered.

The prizes were presented to the winners at night in Temperance hall. There was a good attendance of officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the regiment. Lt. Col. Wayling was in the chair, and previous to handing the prizes over to the winners made a short speech, in which he congratulated the regiment on the grand record they had made at the late D. R. A. matches. The following are the scores:

No. 1. The Nursery match. Ranges 200 and 400 yards, 7 rounds at each range.—

	Score.
Pte. Shaw, No. 6 Co	54
Lt. Nicol, No. 2 Co	49
Pte. Long, No. 6 Co	44
Capt. Hillary, No. 2 Co	43
Pte. Simmons, No 6 Co	42
Col. Sgt. McBrien, No. 6 Co	41
Pte. McCready, No. 1 Co	40
Capt. Verral, No. 8 Co.	38
Pte. Bloomer, No. 1 Co.	38
Sergt. McDonough, No. 4 Co.	38
Lieut. Marsh, No. 5 Co.	37
Capt. Leslie, No. 3 Co.	37
Sergt. Dean, No. 1 Co.	36
Pte. Warren, No. 1 Co.	32
Sergt. Fawcett, No. 6 Co.	32
Pte. Broadman, No. 2 Co.	32
Pte. Brooks, No. 1 Co.	31
Corp. Moody, No. 1 Co.	29
Pte. Orr, No. 3 Co.	27
Pte. Curtis, No. 2 Co.	23

No. 2. The Battalion match.—Ranges, 200, 400, and 500 yards; 7 rounds at each range.

	Score.
Staff-Sergt. Roman, No. 1 Co.	92
Pte. Bayles, No. 6 Co.	90
Sergt. Thompson, No. 1 Co.	89
Sergt. Mowat, No. 1 Co.	89
Staff-Sergt. Davidson, No. 6 Co.	88
Lieut. Elliott, No. 6 Co.	86
Stf.-Sgt. Simpson, No. 1 Co.	86
Stf.-Sgt. Bell, No. 1 Co.	84
Lieut.-Col. Wayling, staff	81
Corp. Hamon, No. 6 Co.	81
Lieut. Mitchell, No. 1 Co.	80
Sergt. Taylor, No. 6 Co.	79