

during the short time allotted to them. The best results were noted in the camps of the 7th, 8th, and 9th Districts, where no men were withdrawn from the companies for Guard duty. The practice of detailing guards consisting entirely of recruits, unacquainted with the rudiments of drill, is not only useless but mischievous. The value of military training in the Schools of Instruction was most marked in its effect on officers and non-commissioned officers. The effect of drill in public schools was likewise noticeable, but in no case more strongly than in that of some young men from the High School, Stratford, Ontario.

Excellent results were obtained in the troop and squadron training of the Cavalry regiments, but the same cannot be said of regimental drill. The regimental movements to be practised, were laid down in General Orders, but Commanding Officers in many cases, had failed to master those movements sufficiently to be able to impart instruction in them. In drill and general efficiency the King's Troop, Kentville, N. S., was undoubtedly ahead of all others, while for physique and appearance the 3rd Prince of Wales Dragoons deserves special mention.

Judging from the intelligence and zeal generally displayed there is reason to believe that the Cavalry could be developed into a most useful force. At present it labours under more serious disadvantages than any other arm.

The Field Batteries of Artillery are generally superior in efficiency to any other arm. The Durham Field Battery deservedly attracted commendation.

The capacity for imparting instruction varied very much in Infantry Corps. The lowest standard was that exhibited by some officers in the camp of the 5th Military District. Battalions concentrated there, had, however the exceptional advantage of having each a first rate Sergeant Instructor, from "B" Company Infantry School Corps.

The best drilled Battalion was the 75th, while the 42nd Battalion, inspected in the first days of its training, deserves special mention.

The best drilled company was No 3. Captain Howe's Company, 71st "York" Battalion. This officer possessed in a marked degree the power of imparting the instruction, to which he had evidently devoted careful study.

(5) *Care of Arms.* The arms throughout the Rural Militia are old and untrustworthy, but moreover they show considerable want of proper care.

Two remarkable exceptions deserve to be noted, viz: the 8th Princess Louise's Hussars, in which the regimental system prevails, and No. 8. Captain Perkins' Company, 67th Carleton Light Infantry, which, in the evident care bestowed upon arms, clothing and accoutrements, left little to be desired.

(6) *Enlistments.* Numerous irregularities were noted in connection with enlistment, which require to be checked by the utmost vigilance on the part of Officers Commanding Corps and Commandants of Camps. The enlistment of men already serving in corps from which they have not been properly discharged, and the claiming of pay for men who have already performed the annual training, in another Corps, are offences punishable under Section 94 Militia Act.

(7) *Staff.* Too great importance cannot be attached to the proper performance of staff duties. In camps of Rural Militia every staff officer, from the Major General Commanding inclusively, must remember that he is before every thing an *instructor*, in those particular duties which fall under his supervision. It is not sufficient for Staff Officers to issue orders. They must see that those orders are carried out, and that reasonable means exist for carrying them out. Orders were generally too numerous and too long. The rule should be, to make orders short and to the point, and not to issue such as are impracticable.

The health and comfort of troops depends so largely on the Quarter Master's Department, that the Camp Quarter

Master should be an officer of untiring energy, capable of inciting Regimental Quarter Masters to a proper performance of their duties.

(8.) *Conclusion.* The thanks of the Militia force are due to the Municipal authorities who everywhere showed a desire to contribute by every means in their power to the comfort of the Troops.

They are likewise due to the ladies of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and to the various sections of the Young Men's Christian Association, for their efforts to supply free of cost, healthy refreshments and amusements for the men.

Special thanks are due to the Authorities of the Belleville General Hospital, for the assistance they afforded in the case of a severe accident, and likewise to the Sisters of Charity at Rimouski, who admitted into their Hospital and nursed all the sick of the camp of No. 7 Military District.

REGIMENTAL.

TORONTO.

QUEEN'S OWN.

After the last parade of the season the members of the regiment are by no means idle, but seize every opportunity of fostering and strengthening the esprit-de-corps for which they are justly noted. The last winter season was an exceedingly lively one but this promises to eclipse it, and certainly to judge from the success of recent events, it ought to do so.

Bugle-Major Swift and the Buglers have hit upon a splendid idea, that is of holding a reception to each company of the regiment, at which a short lecture on bugling, the sounding of regimental calls, and a smoking concert make up the programme for the evening. The first of these was given to A Co. on the 12th inst, and B Co. were entertained on the 19th inst. Both report a very enjoyable time, and in consequence the remaining companies are eagerly awaiting their turn.

F CO. SMOKER.

The smoking concert given by F Co. on Wednesday, the 16th inst., at the Buglers' mess was one of the most enjoyable of company events. Owing to the absence through sickness of Capt McGee, Lieut. Wyatt officiated and made a capital chairman. The following contributed to a splendid programme: ex-Ptes. Kane and McKay, Pte. Rubbra, C Co., Pte. Cuthbert, E Co., Pte. Ashworth, Ptes. Bell and Davison; selections by the buglers and Edison Phonograph. The selections by the buglers were caught on the phonograph and immediately reproduced, greatly to the delight of the audience. "The Spanish Retreat" was exceptionally good, the buglers seem to be away in the distance but approaching, each call growing more distinct until they appeared to have reached the auditor, then gradually the sound died away as the column retired. These selections form no small part of the programme at the Phonograph Parlours.

During the evening Lieut.-Col. Hamilton was called upon to present to Staff-Sergt. George and ex-Col.-Sergt. Ham handsome gold lockets as tokens of the esteem in which they are held by the members of No. 6. The Colonel in making the presentation paid a high compliment to both the recipients and stated that as regards ex-Col.-Sergt. George, while it was F Co.'s loss it was the Regiment's gain, he being promoted to be Q.-Master Sergeant; not so, however, with ex-Col.-Sergt. Ham, as here the Co.'s loss was the Regiment's loss, as business would not permit the genial Col.-Sergt. to retain the position any longer.

Medals for best attendance at drill and rifle practice were won by the following: Ptes. Rice and Cameron (equal), Corp. Crate, Sergt. Cockburn, Pte. Andrews, Pte. J. M. Davison, Col.-Sergt. Agnew.

Lancers, waltzes, etc., brought to a close the most suc-