

TARGET PRACTICE.

There has been very little target practice this year, owing to want of proper targets. And although this District boasts of some of the crack shots in the Dominion, especially in the 8th Battalion, I am sorry to say that, for want of ranges and targets, the firing in this District has been up to this time much neglected generally. The Rifle Associations already formed, and in course of formation, however, will, it is hoped, now that something has been done in the way of supplying targets, make a wholesome change in this respect. For the number of associations formed, and the firing they made, I beg to refer to the return forwarded by me on the subject.

DRILL SHEDS.

There is only one drill shed in the whole District—at Quebec: the lighting of which is very expensive. I believe a considerable saving could be made by altering the present system, and changing the pipes and burners. Steps have been taken with a view of having suitable drill sheds built at Rivière du Loup and Ste. Geneviève.

ARMOURIES.

In Quebec there is a public armoury, where arms, &c., are kept at the public expense. It is very inconvenient and insufficient. A good and proper armoury could be built in rear of the drill shed. The rural corps have their arms in charge of the captains of companies, who provide private armouries or storage for the safe-keeping of the arms, uniforms, and accoutrements of their respective companies for the Government allowance of forty dollars per annum. The arms, &c., are well taken care of, and favorable reports are made by the Brigade-Majors at their semi-annual inspections.

CLOTHING.

The clothing of new corps, having been but a short time in use, is in good order. Some of the old corps, however, having had no issue at the end of their five years as entitled to by the clothing regulations, are very badly off. The Quebec Garrison Artillery, for instance, with a large balance to the credit of its clothing account, is still in old and much-worn uniforms, which takes a great deal from their appearance on parade. The cavalry have had no cloaks, and when parading in mid-winter, generally prefer doing so in summer uniform to wearing some infantry great coats, ill-adapted to the movements of a horseman, and suffer a great deal from the inclemency of the weather.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

L. A. CASAULT, Lieut.-Col., D.A.G.

M. D. No 7

Col. P. ROBERTSON-ROSS,
Adjutant General, Ottawa.