

officers of the club at present are: Capt. W. M. Davis, Woodstock, president; Capt. Dennison, London School of Infantry, vice-president; and Mr. F. W. White, Ottawa, secretary-treasurer. Gen. Cameron will probably be elected honorary president, and will no doubt attend the dinner. Gen. Middleton and Col. Powell and other officers will be invited to attend the dinner.

### The Honourable Artillery Company.

In view of the recent disbandment of this organization, the cable reports concerning which have been read with very great interest on this side of the ocean, the report of the last annual meeting appearing below, and taken from the London city press, will be instructive reading. The disbandment took place on the recommendation of the Prince of Wales, the reason assigned being the internal troubles of the corps. It is reported that it will likely be reorganized shortly, under the Volunteer Act. This is the report of the annual meeting, which was held on the 13th December:—

The annual general Court of this ancient regiment was held at the Armoury House on Thursday evening last week, under the presidency of Major Mainwaring Jones, in the absence of Lord Colville of Culross. There was an unusually large attendance of members, in consequence of the great excitement existing in the regiment in connection with the proposal to place the regiment under the Volunteer Act.

It was abundantly evident during the evening's proceedings that, after having had a little time for reflection the members hesitated to agree unreservedly to this proposal unless they had some guarantee that the ancient privileges of the Company would be maintained.

"The first motion proposed was by Major G. A. Raikes, and seconded by Private Bosanquet as follows: "That although the members of the Honourable Artillery Company, relying on the assurances which have been given, that the Company shall retain its ancient privileges, and control over its property, are prepared loyally to accept the provisions of the Volunteer Act of 1863, at the request of H.R.H. the Captain-General and Colonel, and hereby confirm the resolution passed at the special general Court, on November 8th last: yet, in order to preserve this ancient company as a distinct and separate body, or corps (which honourable position it has held for upwards of 350 years), and not as a Volunteer corps with special privileges, it would be most satisfactory and gratifying to the members of the company, if the Parliamentary powers which are necessary were obtained under a separate Act, or under any other Act than the 26th & 27th Vic. cap. 65."

After an animated discussion the resolution was unanimously passed, and ordered to be sent to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales (Captain-General and Colonel).

"Major Raikes also proposed the following resolution, which was also passed unanimously: "That the members of the Hon. Artillery Company, having always been anxious and willing to do everything to promote the efficiency and usefulness of the company as a military body, hereby record their readiness to accept the provisions of the National Defence Bill, 1888, under which they would become liable to be called out for service whenever the Militia is embodied."

The next motion was moved by the Court of Assistants, to the effect "That in accordance with the resolution passed at the special general Court held at the Armoury House on Thursday, the 8th of November last, this annual general Court do place at the disposal of the commanding officer the sum of £500 for military purposes, pending the proposed alteration in the regiment."

This motion met with a decided and, as it turned out, successful opposition. An amendment, moved by Private Bosanquet, to the following effect was, on a show of hands, carried by a large majority, and on a division being taken, this resolution was carried as a substantive resolution: "That as the vote of a fixed sum to be paid to the commanding officer to cover military expenses forms a part of the new and uncompleted arrangements suggested by H.R.H. the Captain-General and Colonel, the consideration of the resolution do stand over until the proposed alterations in the constitution of the company have been submitted to the members." During the discussion on this amendment it was stated that, although the members were not only willing but anxious to meet the views of the Captain-General, they considered that they were responsible for the maintenance of the company as far as possible in its present position, and it was reasonable that the proposed changes should be considered and carried out together.

The following resolution was also passed by a large majority, there being only a few dissentients: "That this court desires to repudiate and protest against the charge of insubordination made against the regiment by Captain Woolmer Williams in a book recently published in his name and dedicated to her Majesty the Queen."

Other formal business having been disposed of, the members proceeded to ballot for the twenty-four members to serve on the Court of

Assistants for the ensuing year. The names of the Court are given below: Private Prendegast, Lieut. Evans, Lieut. Ferrier, Lieut. Hammond, Major Raikes, Capt. Summers, Capt. Stohwasser, Major Holt, Lieut. Reynolds, Sergt. Girling, Capt. Fry, Lieut. Sanderson, Capt. Nunn, Major Baker, Capt. Pash, Staff-Sergt. Brooking, Private Bosanquet, Lieut. Birkett, Sergt. Hammond, Lieut. Gibson, Private A. McKenzie, Private Spencer, Private Elam, and Lieut. Twigg.

### Gleanings.

"It looks to me," said an attache of the Navy Department, according to the *N. Y. Sun*, "as though the papers were trying to work up a war feeling among Americans. The manner in which the New York newspapers have lately handled the Canadian, Samoan, Corean and Haytian questions is decidedly belligerent if viewed from the old-fashioned standpoint of ten years ago. It was then considered the height of absurdity for America to talk war, even with the South American republics. This feeling has changed very materially now. The improvement in our Navy, and perhaps the effect of the President's retaliation message, have both contributed to make Americans more confident. When our flag was insulted before, and such insults have been humilatingly numerous in the history of the United States, the only result was a few jokes by the paragraphers on the inefficiency of our Navy and the regularity with which we were sneered at. Now there is a feeling of hot indignation, and it finds its echo in the belligerent tone of the daily press. The least sign of weakness on Secretary Bayard's part has been sharply commented on in all quarters. It is a great change, and everybody knows what this sort of thing will lead to in time."

A London correspondent of the *New York Times*, referring to the fact that French Infantry and cavalry officers are to get more pay, a captain \$720 if of the first class and \$648 if of the second, says: "Who would not be a French captain? Badly paid as our officers are they at least get more than this; but then we have more rapid promotion as well, so that upon the whole, except in war time, British officers have much the best of it. But it cannot be denied that in both countries the system is bad which compels men to put their hands into the pockets of themselves or their relatives, which comes to the same thing, to pay for the performance of public duty. The only sound system is that of the United States, where officers get, if not high, at least sufficient pay, and where the only drawback appears to be delay in promotion."

A competitive target practice took place some time ago before the President of the French Republic at the military school of Saint-Cyr, to test the relative merits of the Lebel and Gras rifles. A company of Infantry was armed with the Lebel rifle, and another with the Gras. The distance was 400 yards. While the men armed with the Lebel rifle hit the target with 180 shots out of 200, those armed with the Gras hit it only eighty shots. The firing with the Lebel rifle was done in forty seconds without noise and without smoke; while during the same period of time the firing with the Gras rifle generated a thick cloud of smoke which impeded the accuracy of the firing, and at times even hid the target from view.—*Akhbar*.

The *Revue Militaire de l'Etranger*, quoting the *Chronique*, signals the apparition of a new repeating rifle, manufactured by the Manufacture Liegeoise d'Armes a Feu. This new weapon has passed the customary ordeal without affording therefor any unfavourable observations, and has been admitted to the final trial, which will shortly take place at the camp of Beverloo, in competition with four other rifles already submitted to the Belgian Government. The most remarkable feature of this new Engh rifle is the original simplicity of its percussion and repetition mechanism, which does not require a single screw or spiral spring. It is also remarkable for the small number of pieces of which it is composed, for the solidity of each of the pieces, and the facility with which it can be handled. It can be mounted and dismounted by hand in less than a minute, and without the aid of a single tool. Thirty shots have been fired with this rifle in sixty-six seconds, presenting and taking aim before each shot.

In Germany Military Telegraphy is under the direction of officers of the Engineers. In Prussia it is directed by a lieutenant-colonel, with the title of Inspector of Military Telegraphy. Of late years a school of Military Telegraphy, under the supervision of a captain of Engineers, has been opened at Berlin. A school of the same kind was opened at Munich lately, more especially for the benefit of soldiers of the Cavalry and of the Pioneers. Soldiers who will have undergone a course of instruction at this school will wear a distinctive badge on the shoulder-straps, somewhat similar to that worn by good marksmen.

The Grenadier Guards received their name from the hand grenades they formerly used. Their orders for using these were as follows:—"Open your pouches"—"Handle your grenades"—"Blow your matches"—"Fall on."