

The Committee of the Riding Ground has issued its programme for the races to be held on June 21st. It differs a little from that of last year, the difference being in doing away with the pony hurdle race and substituting for it a handicap 1 1/2 mile for ponies. This is a good improvement and ought to bring more ponies in the field than the hurdles did and ought to make a good race. But it seems a pity to have no hurdle race whatever, for the crowd takes more interest in that kind of race, it generally being more amusing.

There are, we believe several horses coming down from Boston to try and keep the Riding Ground Cup, which was won by Dr. Hopkin's Sirocco, last year. Surely Halifax ought to be able to win back that cup and prevent its return to the States. The prospect of a good days racing seems fair, and with a new regiment and no doubt some new ponies we ought to see some large fields, and closely contested races.

Mignonette, the winner of the Pony Cup of last year will be prevented from racing this year, so we would not be surprised if the Pony Cup accompanied the Riding Ground Cup, and spent the next year at the Country Club in Boston, this ought not to be borne for the honor and credit of Halifax and Nova Scotia. It is a pity that a two days meeting could not be arranged, for if such a thing could be, it would bring a much better class of horses and ponies here, and better sport in every particular.

The cynical "Wrangler" or "Mangler" as Lady Jane prefers to call him said last Saturday that the advent of spring (good old phrase) can be detected by the presence of the Spring Band somewhere down near Suck's Pond. (By the way does not this said band invariably play the Frogs March?) The more sentimental and romantic "Gaseous" thinks the appearance of the modest little mayflower a better herald. There are many other signs of the coming spring that thrust themselves before ones eyes just now, for instance the notice re removal of ashes and garbage that adorn the dead walls, or the gradual adoption of grayish yellow jackets by the ladies and dittoes by the men. Another unmistakable sign is the fact that our Volunteers are now beginning to wake up from their winter's season, and that the drill season will shortly set in with its usual severity. The Drill Shed is alive with recruits receiving elementary instruction nightly. We hear a great deal about both the H. G. A. and the 63rd Regiment, but the 66th seem to keep themselves to themselves very much. This regiment has gone ahead under Col. Humphrey's regime, however. It now possesses a pioneer corps, an ambulance corps, and has retained the services of a color-sergeant of the Leicestershire Regiment to act as Drill Instructor. The non coms. are undergoing a furbishing up at his hands just now, and the parades of the regiment during the coming year will no doubt show good results on this account.

The officers of the Princess Louise's Fusiliers intend to give a smoking concert in the masonic Hall, at an early date.

There will, if the present arrangements are carried out, be a church parade of the 66th on Sunday the 24th of May.

The following promotions have been made in "F" Company 66th P. L. F.:-

Corp. H. Johnstone to be sergeant, L. Corp. Henderson to be a corporal, Private Harrington to be lance corporal, Private A. Johnston to be lance corporal, Corp. Payne of the same company, is taking a three months course at the Royal School of Infantry at Fredericton.

A very select and dainty luncheon party was given by Mrs. Clarence Dimock of Windsor to her lady friends on Wednesday last, which we have heard pronounced as a great success in the way of entertainment. The guests were, Miss Machin, Miss Kidd, Mrs. O'Brien, Miss Maynard, Miss Hind and Miss Dimock. We are told many such social treats take place weekly, and the inmates of Claremont are noted for their hospitality.

Dartmouth has had a number of young folks parties this season. A very pleasant gathering took place on Thursday at the residence of Mr. James Simmonds. A large number of guests were present,

among those invited were, Miss Edith Weeks, Miss Janie and Miss Olga Allen, Miss Josie and Miss Helen Howe, Miss Maizie and Miss Winnie Bently, Miss Mabel and Master Harry Pyke, Master Sherry Birchell, Master Jack Allen, Master Edward Stevens, Miss Edith Elliot, Masters Frank and Arthur Creighton, and a number of others.

The last concert of the series at the Church of England Institute will take place next Friday evening. The principal performers are the "Lyric Quartette" - Mrs. Lear, Mrs. Taylor, Mr. Sobieski and Mr. Blois. Mr. F. J. Tremaine and others will take part, and altogether the programme is at least as attractive as the preceding ones, which is saying a great deal. These concerts are, we understand, under the management of Mr. E. V. B. Foster, and have been completely successful, reflecting great credit on their promoters.

Dr. and Mrs. Fowler left in the "Damara" for London.

Dr. and Mrs. Wickwire and family are staying at the Halifax Hotel.

Mr. J. T. Wyld is taking rooms at No. 87 Hollis St., during Mrs. Wyld's absence in England.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Reynolds and family are going to spend a week or two at the "Bedford" Hotel.

Mr. J. R. Henders on left to-day on a business trip to the States.

Mrs. J. E. Wilson of 31 Inglis Street, gave a party on Wednesday evening, which served the double purpose of welcoming Captain G. Duffus, and bidding good bye to Miss DesBarres.

Dr. A. J. and Mrs. Cowie and family, will take up their quarters at the Halifax Hotel for a few weeks, before proceeding to the Bedford Hotel.

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