

REGIMENTAL NOTES.

TORONTO.

The different city battalions are working harder than ever and with better effect, in anticipation of the competitions for the Gzowski Challenge Cup,

The plan which the different commanding officers have taken is to set apart a certain portion of the work for each drill night, and devoting the whole of the time to the work laid out. The plan has been found to work very successfully, and while, owing to shortness of time, it perhaps has been rushed too much to make it as thorough as many would like, it has attained its object and the majority of the companies of all the regiments are well grounded in company drill. It also gives the subalterns that practice, which according to the Deputy Adjutant General's report of 1891 was found to be wanting; and in the majority of cases, the sergeants are being practiced in giving detail as well as in the duties of guides, markers and section commanders. Before this appears in print the majority of the companies will have gone through the ordeal of the days inspection, and this year the competition will be decided more by the result of the work on parade, than by the state of clothing, company books, care of armouries, arms and accoutrements.

The funeral of Staff-Sergt. Fletcher, Q.O.R., took place on the 5th inst. and in response to his last request the majority of his fellow sergeants followed his remains to their last resting place at Mount Pleasant.

Staff-Sergt. Fletcher had been ailing for some time and spent some six or eight months on the Pacific Coast, in the hope of regaining his health. He returned about six months ago and gradually grew worse, passing away on the evening of the 1st October. A Lansdowne pillow was sent by the Sergeants Mess as the last token of the kindly feelings entertained by them for one who was a general favorite and ever ready to lend a helping hand to further either the interest of the Mess or of the Regiment. The pall-bearers were: Hosp. Sergt. Watts, Sergts. Burns, Pearson, Gray, Donaldson and Derby. The ambulance corps to which deceased was attached was also on parade.

Major General Herbert completed his inspection of No. 2 Company, R.S.I., and left for the east on the night of the 5th inst.

From enquiry, the idea of shooting the League Matches with the Martini has made a good impression here, and all seem desirous of seeing the Military League officials make the change. It would not entail any hardships on any team, as no doubt those who have not the Martini could obtain sufficient by sending forward the requisition to the proper authorities.

The question of ammunition is one that can easily be settled, and in all probability the Minister of Militia would make the same generous donation with this ammunition as he and his predecessor has done with the Snider.

Work on the Drill Hall is at last being pushed, but the season is so far advanced that even the most sanguine have no hope of seeing the completion before 1894. When one stops to think that upwards of 1,400 men can be found on parade every week during the drill season, and that they have to drill on ground lighted by the enterprise of the officers of the city corps, it is easily seen that the scant treatment shown by the authorities at Ottawa has little effect in dampening the enthusiasm of these regiments, and the most ardent supporter of the Government cannot but admit that the record and creditable showing made by the Toronto battalions merits a better treatment.

Quartermaster Sergeant Hugh M. George succeeds Sergt.-Major Kennedy as Sergt.-Major of the Queen's Own Rifles. Sergt.-Major George joined the Queen's Own as a member of "F" Company and served in all the ranks until last year when he was appointed Qmstr.-Sergt. During the years 1889 and 1890 he acted as Secretary to the Sergeants Mess and in 1891 ably discharged his duties as its President. A

good drill, a keen enthusiast and a hearty worker in all things regimental coupled with a manner that ensures the respect and endears him to every man in the regiment, all combine to make the beau ideal of a Sergt.-Major, and one of which any corps might well be proud.

The annual inspection of the Public School drill companies by the D.A.G. was held on the 13th instant, combining the anniversary of Queenston Heights and the Columbus Discovery, although the latter cut but a slight figure.

Under Capt. and Adjutant Thompson, 12th Brigade, the companies to the strength of about 1,600 paraded on the old cricket grounds and were inspected by Lieut.-Col. Otter, D.A.G.

The brigade formed line and Lieut.-Col. Otter with Capt. Pellatt, Q.O.R. as Aide, accompanied by Hon. Mackenzie Bowell, Lieut. Gov. and Mrs. Kirkpatrick, and the members of the School Board, passed along the line of young warriors, who looked their best, and drew forth from the inspecting party well deserved praise.

The march past was then gone through in column and quarter column, and many times has worse marching been done by city battalions, than that of these youthful soldiers.

On the conclusion of the march past the battalions were formed into a mass of quarter columns and words of congratulations mingled with good wholesome advice were addressed to them by Lieut.-Col. Otter, Lieut.-Gov. Kirkpatrick, Hon. Mackenzie Bowell, Lieut.-Col. G. T. Denison and Chairman Macpherson.

The band of the Queen's Own was in attendance during the afternoon.

The opening smoking concert of the season given by the Q.O.R. Sergeants Mess was a very successful affair and gives promise of some very pleasant affairs during the approaching winter. A noticable feature was the presence of a large number of the members of the Sergeants Mess of the Royal Grenadiers.

"BREECH BLOCK."

The Queen's Own Rifles paraded on 12th inst. for drill at the old Upper Canada College grounds 590 strong under Lieut.-Col. Hamilton. After drilling for some time the regiment marched back to the drill-shed. Col. Hamilton spoke to the men, and said he was much pleased with the turn and the progress made in drill by the men. Staff-Sergt. J. G. Macdonald, a Ridgeway veteran, has been ill for a few days. His place is filled temporarily by Staff-Sergt. Williams. The regiment will parade for Divine service on Sunday 16th, at 2.15 p.m., to the Church of the Redeemer. The company inspection in connection with the efficiency competition will begin on Wednesday next 19th inst. and continue weekly until finished. The commanding officer will select the companies for each evening, which must consist only of officers and men as have been regularly posted to such companies; deductions will be made for absentees. The inspection will consist of:—Clothing and accoutrements, manual exercise, firing exercise, company drill, and answers to questions. Companies will parade in drill order in the Drill-shed.

At the regular September meeting of the sergeants of the Royal Grenadiers there was a good attendance of members and considerable routine business was transacted. The following letter was received from Major-General Middleton in acceptance of a photograph of the members:

MOORSIDE, YATELY, HANTS, ENGLAND,

August 30, 1892.

Staff-Sergt. Brooks:

DEAR SIR,—I cannot tell you how pleased I am to find by your letter that my old comrades have not yet forgotten their old general. I received the photograph of you all with the very greatest pleasure, and I hope you will express to the staff-sergeants and sergeants, and yourself accept my thanks for the honour they and you have done me in sending it to me. It will be an additional reminder of the pleasant and, I trust, useful times we spent together, and which I for one will never forget. With best wishes to you all, I remain, yours faithfully,

FRED. MIDDLETON, General.

Her Majesty's Army and Navy Veterans' Society held a very largely attended meeting on 11th inst. in Occident Hall. Mr. Alexander Muir was in the chair. The following gentlemen were proposed for membership: Capt. Furnival, 12th