

made the smartest appearance on parade. This was an incentive enough to make all work like beavers, but the choice fell to the Fusiliers who furnished a guard of a hundred picked men that was exceptionally smart and tidy in its appearance.

Once more the age limit was responsible for a change in Commanding Officers. Col. Beattie retiring this year, and Major Guillot receiving the Command. Of all the officers in the Regiment perhaps none other had been as painstaking and energetic as the new Commanding Officer, and it was with pleasure to all ranks that he received his well-deserved promotion.

For some time it had been urged upon the authorities that a trial be given the proposal to train only the officers and non-commissioned officers of the rural corps at the camps of Instruction and have the complete units drill at their own local headquarters each year. The 21st was selected to make the trial and attended the camp of 1899 as a "skeleton" Battalion. They were quartered in the Barracks and thoroughly enjoyed the novelty of the idea. The officers and non-commissioned officers were divided into five squads for the purpose of instruction, each squad was instructed as is usual at the R. S. I. courses and all profited greatly by the general "brushing up" they received. Col. Maunsel, who was the inspecting officer that year, was delighted with the manner in which the squads were handled by both officers and non-commissioned officers and expressed his entire satisfaction with the system, but the plan has never been adopted by the Department in Militia.

In July, 1899, the first call upon the Regiment's services *IN AID OF THE CIVIL POWER* was made. There had been serious rioting at London in connection with the Street Railway strike and on Sunday, the ninth, detachments of forty men were asked from the Essex Fusiliers, the 22nd Batt., the 29th and 30th Battalions. In two hours after the receipt of the order the detachment paraded at the Armories in marching order, ready for instructions to entrain. The command of the detachment was given