

CAPT. GAUDET RETURNS.

QUEBEC, Feb. 22.

THE R. C. A. Quadrille Club gave another of their fortnightly dances in the Citadel on the evening of the 7th inst, which, as on former occasions, proved very enjoyable to those in attendance. Representatives from the Field and Garrison Artillery were present as well as a number of civilians. The music was furnished by Bandsman Wallis. The duties of floor manager were well carried out by Corp'l. Jordan.

Major B. A. Scott, of the 61st Battalion, has returned to Roberval after spending a couple of weeks in the city.

Mr. G. G. Rose, of the Unattached List, has been in the city for a few days and had the privileges of the Garrison Club extended to him during his visit.

The 8th Royal Rifles will commence their annual training on Tuesday, the 3rd of March. Clothing and accoutrements will be issued on the evenings of the 24th, 25th and 26th inst, one company from the Right and one from the Left Half Battalion each evening. On Friday, March 6, the commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. G. R. White, will inspect the Battalion.

It is reported that Mr. A. E. Swift will take a commission in the 8th Royal Rifles, and that he will be gazetted in the near future. Capt. O. B. C. Richardson has resigned and has made the transfer to Capt. H. J. Lamb.

The following letter which speaks for itself was received by Capt. O. C. Pelletier, R.C.A., dated Quebec, Feb. 3rd, 1896:

DEAR SIR,—The firemen of No. 8 Fire Station wish to express their thanks for the delicate attention of the members of the R.C.A. toward the ice monument erected by us in honor of the brave and courageous Short and Wallick, on the same ground where these two heroes fell victims to their duty. We beg you to accept for yourself and every member of the R.C.A. our most sincere thanks for the fine demonstration made in honor of those two braves on the day of the carnival drive. At the same time we beg you to convey to the members of the R.C.A. Snow Shoe Club our thanks for the coming and laying of a crown of immortelles at the feet of their late brothers in arms, and to assure them that this precious tribute of homage will be carefully kept by us in honor of these two heroes, and as a token of respect for and souvenir of the members of the R.C.A. who only wait the occasion to prove the same courage as shown by Short and Wallick if called on.

Yours devotedly,

The Firemen of No. 8 Fire Station.

Capt. F. M. Gaudet, who succeeded the late Lieut.-Col. Prevost as superintendent of the Government Cartridge Factory, has assumed his duties. Since his appointment Capt. Gaudet has been in England studying the manufacture of ammunition, and also made enquiries concerning smokeless powder.

Capt. W. J. Ray, 8th Royal Rifles, was entertained at a dinner at the Garrison

Club on Saturday evening, the 15th inst., by his many friends, on the occasion of his approaching departure for England to be married to a young lady well known in Quebec society.

M. J. H. C. Ogilvy, of the Royal Canadian Artillery, who was instrumental in getting up the Ladies' Minstrels, an entertainment which took place at the Academy of Music on the 18th inst., is deserving of great credit for the manner in which it was presented and the success of the same. Under his management the audience enjoyed a good evening's entertainment. He was ably assisted by Master Gunner Lavie, of the same corps, and by Mr. Joseph Vezina as musical director.

The School of Instruction, under Capt. T. Benson, R.C.A., is still at work, and battalion drill will shortly be taken up. The school will probably last for another three weeks or a month.

Capt. W. J. Ray was the recipient from the Quebec Snow Shoe Club, of which he is president, of an illuminated address, accompanied by a purse containing \$100 in gold. The address was read by Major J. Secretan Dunbar, vice-president of the club.

PATROL.

WHICH ARE THE BEST TROOPS?

HALIFAX, Feb. 24.

A STATEMENT published in The Toronto Mail and Empire of February 8, makes Maj.-Gen. Gascoigne say, when receiving the deputation from Toronto which was urging the establishment of another regiment of artillery: "There is no question that I look upon the Toronto regiments as the best troops I have. There is no doubt about that." Surely the G.O.C. did not use these words, for, so far, his knowledge is limited to the few ceremonial parades which he has inspected in Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa, and I feel quite sure, unless he intends, like his predecessor, to ignore the troops in the Maritime Provinces, in view of the efficiency returns which have been published for the past seven years, he would certainly hesitate before making such a statement. Permit me to ask of what use is it having annual inspections conducted on a competitive principle, publishing the number of marks obtained, and then ignoring those figures the moment it seems necessary to say "nice things." This is a matter in which the old proverb, "Be just before you are generous," still holds good.

The professors and students of Dalhousie College are talking of organizing two companies of 50 each, and it is expected that they will apply to be attached to the 63rd Halifax Rifles. It is said that the O.C. 63rd favors the idea of receiving them as Nos. 7 and 8 companies of his corps. The city brigade will receive them with open arms—it would puzzle us to receive them with any other kind of arms just now, for I

believe there is not a spare rifle in the district. In fact, I am sure there's not.

On the 10th inst. No. 3 Co. C.A. opened their new club rooms by giving an At Home to their friends to the number of about 120. The rooms were neatly decorated with bunting, etc., and the many trophies won by this company were tastefully arranged on the large billiard table, and were much admired by all. In addition to the company officers, the commanding officers, the adjutant and paymaster were present during the early part of the entertainment. Speeches, songs, dances, etc., were given in abundance and of the best quality, and the same must be said of the refreshments, pipes, tobacco and cigars which were served to all hands.

GRAVELCRUSHER.

A REGIMENTAL WHIST PARTY.

LONDON, Feb. 28.

The annual entertainment of the 7th Fusiliers took the form of a progressive whist party. The invited guests numbered ninety-six, and were duly entertained in the new regimental mess rooms on Richmond street. There were thirty hands of whist played, and keen and sharp was the competition. Dr. English succeeded in carrying off first-prize, a handsome gold-headed cane, whilst Lieut.-Col. Smith, D.A.G., won the other prize, a clay pipe and two plugs baccy, after which the guests were entertained at a nicely arranged supper, and the jollity kept up until the small hours. The arrangements, which were perfect, were carried out by a committee consisting of Major Hayes and Captains Groves and Graham. The success and harmony of this last party has encouraged the officers and they intend repeating the entertainment after the Lent season.

The 7th are now commencing their company drill, preparing for their visit to Hamilton on the 24th of May, and expect to turn out in full strength on that occasion.

MILITARY INSTITUTE.

The annual meeting of the Montreal Military Institute was held last week, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Major Labelle; first vice-president, Lieut.-Col. Massey; second vice-president, Major Busted; third vice-president, Major Blaiklock; sec.-treasurer, Major C. W. Radiger; committee, Lieut.-Col. Mattice, Major De Trois Maisons, 85th; Surgeon Spier, cavalry; Capt. Costigan, M.F.B.; Capt. Mitchell, 6th Fus.; Capt. Bond, 1st P.W.R.; Capt. Cameron, 5th R.S.; Major Reid, 2nd Batt. C.G.A., and Capt. Pelletier, 65th.

During the year 1895 twenty-three non-commissioned officers were promoted to combatant commissions in the British Army. In 1894 there were twenty-four commissions given from the ranks, in 1893, eighteen; in 1892, twelve; in 1891, twelve, and in 1890, sixteen.