

SHIFTING ORDNANCE COMPETITIONS.

ROYAL SCHOOLS OF ARTILLERY.

This competition took place at Kingston Ont., on the 16th October 1883, between detachments from "A" and "B" Batteries.

Lt.-Col. Kensington, R.A., R.M.C.; who kindly consented to act as umpire reported as follows :—

Royal Military College, 9th January, 1884.

Sir.

In reply to your request for the report of the Shifting Ordnance Competition between "A" and "B" Batteries for the past year I have the honor to report as follows :—

A 32 por. of 56 cwt. was resting on skids, muzzle to the right, in rear of a platform placed at the crest of a declivity.

At the extreme left of the platform was a garrison carriage on which the gun was to be mounted after being parbuckled round by the front, no part of the gun being allowed to pass over the platform, whilst being taken round. The space on the right of the platform was somewhat contracted owing to the existence of a wall.

The gun was to be mounted by parbuckling up a single skid ; and just as it was reaching the top it was to be thrown over.

Till then any ordinary stores including a long lever were to be allowed, from a selection of stores laid out on the parade ; but after throwing the gun over, the lever was to be removed, and the gun mounted without it.

There were to be the usual penalties of 10 seconds added for each offence of talking or attempting otherwise to direct the operations or interfere with the orders of the No. 1 ; also for any neglect to scotch the gun or carriage when necessary.

"A" Battery won the toss and elected to go in first. They executed the whole very neatly in 10 minutes without giving cause for any remarks other than of praise.

"B" Battery who had been in the meantime removed followed and completed it in 7 min. 35 sec., which, with 10 seconds added for neglect to properly scotch the carriage, made a total of 7 min. 45 sec.

"B" Battery were, therefore, declared winners by 2 min. 15 sec.

"B" Battery performed the parbuckling in a most masterly manner, and began to gain upon the time of "A" Battery from the very commencement, rounding the corners more quickly, and using a better arrangement of skids. In throwing the gun off the skid "B" Battery did not throw it off so neatly as "A" Battery but they managed to get it down into a more favorable position than was intended. By this gained about half a minute to a minute at most, which might have had to be taken into consideration had the ultimate times been closer.

It should be borne in mind that the detachment from "A" Battery were disheartened by the recent accidental death of one of their best men whose loss they felt keenly.

In conclusion
detachments which
and Staff Sergt. I

The
Inspector of A
Ottawa.

Staff Sergt.
Gunner Fa
" M
" Ba
" Tr
Corporal V
Bombd. S
Gunner M
" H
Sergt. Br
Gunner F
Bombd. I
Gunner G
" E
Corporal
Gunner M
" F
Bombd.
Gunner M
" S
" M