

impromptu programme of an entertaining character, the band and Harrison's orchestra contributing largely to this. The band played a medley from the Mikado, which Mr. D. Dias followed with that favourite song of his—A Private Still. Mr. C. W. Deforest was prevailed upon to give his stump speech on the popular subject, He Gets There Just the Same. The orchestra played a selection of airs from the opera Erminie. Mr. Joseph Matthews, an old bandsman, sang The Queen's Letter, which Lieut. Cleveland followed up with a recitation, The Gladiator. Mr. M. Hammond's piccolo solo, When the Bloom is on the Rye, with variations and orchestral accompaniment, was a delight. The band played the Relief of Ekowe, in which is introduced the national anthem, new to most of those present, and was highly appreciated. Messrs. Dias and Deforest sang a duet, the orchestra played the waltz Gitana, and the band concluded with a march. All who took part were loudly applauded.

Lt.-Col. Blaine made a short speech, in which he thanked the visitors for their attendance and spoke in warm terms of the band. The playing of God Save the Queen was naturally followed by cheers for the colonel, the band and the performers.

New Brunswick Brigade of Garrison Artillery.

The annual meeting of officers of the New Brunswick Artillery was held on the 28th of March at the Victoria Hotel. The regimental and band committees submitted their reports, the former showing a balance on hand of \$206.10, the latter a credit balance of \$111.48. The election of committees was then held, resulting in the selection of Captain and Paymaster Smith, Surgeon Daniel and Captain Seely on the regimental committee, and Captain Crawford, with Lieuts. McLeod and White, on the band committee. The officers then unanimously voted their annual drill pay, as usual, for the general purposes of the brigade. It was decided to affiliate with the Dominion Artillery Association, and the necessary funds were voted for that purpose. The sum of \$20 was voted towards the regimental library, and in addition to the sum of \$100 given last year towards a drill shed fund for outlying batteries, a like sum was voted this year for that purpose. A pattern of shoulder badges, showing battery and corps of wearer, was exhibited and approved, and ordered to be obtained. It was then decided that the winning of the Botsford challenge cup be decided by the answer made by non-commissioned officers in the general efficiency competition, a tie to be decided by the officers' answers. Great satisfaction was expressed on the success of No. 1 Battery in taking the Marquis of Lansdowne's challenge cup in the general efficiency competition; and in Captain Crawford's taking the fine prize in the officers' competition at Quebec, besides other successes which had been attained during the past year by the corps.

Fredericton Military School.

"Bluenose" writes to the Halifax *Mail*, under date Fredericton, March 18th:—

"There is no doubt but that your readers, especially those interested in military affairs, will be pleased to know what is being done at the Fredericton military school this winter. Being maintained for the especial benefit of the Maritime Provinces, with a permanent corps and an efficient staff of instructors, it affords to those desirous of acquiring a well grounded knowledge, not only of drill and tactics but of interior economy and discipline as well, the only available source of obtaining the same, and as one of the attached class of the winter term of 1889 I cannot express too high an opinion of the school, as a means, nor of the benefits derived at a course thereat, as a result.

"In every department the strictest adherence to regulations is maintained, and whether on parade, on duty, at mess, or from a social point of view, the *esprit de corps* and deference to superiors, which is so great a matter of pride in the regular service, is everywhere apparent. This in addition to the earnest solicitude on the part of the officers in charge for our advancement, and universal kindness and courtesy shown to us individually and as a class, renders the approaching close of the term a matter to be contemplated with regret. The present class consists of seventeen officers and about thirty non-com's and privates. Of the former I am proud to say ten are from Nova Scotia, while New Brunswick furnishes six, and Prince Edward Island the remaining one. Those from Nova Scotia are:—Major Hill, 94th Sydney; Lieuts. Phinney and Hawkins, 72nd Annapolis; Paymaster Coldwell and Lieut. Ham, 75th Lunenburg; Lieuts. Purdy, Whitman, Barteaux and Wilkins, 69th, Annapolis; Lieut. DeWolfe, 66th, Halifax.

"The officers of the school and attached officers were entertained at dinner at Government House a few evenings since on which occasion Governor Tilley expressed his high appreciation of the institution and its objects, and felt that the militia would soon show the result of the work done, by a greatly advanced degree of efficiency on the part of rural battalions. I cannot close without a word of advice to all in our

province who are desirous of obtaining a knowledge of that which will render them of real service to their corps, which is, by all means to take a course at the school as early as may be convenient."

The New Seventh Fusiliers.

Speculation has been rife, says the London *Free Press*, among the local volunteers for some time past, and especially since the stores were removed to the District Headquarters, as to the probable action the Department will take on the recommendation of the Deputy Adjutant-General, Col. Smith, with reference to the Seventh Fusiliers; but the belief is general that an order for its disbandment will be issued within a few weeks, which will be followed later on in the summer by the granting of a commission to some energetic officer to organize a new battalion on a more substantial basis. During the last few weeks several of the Battalion officers have been at the Capital with a view to influencing the Department in their action, but all of them disclaim any definite knowledge of the course which events are most likely to take. Major Smith was in Ottawa last week on private business, and during his stay had a casual interview with the Minister of Militia on the subject, but he refused to say what was the outcome of it. He gave it as his personal opinion, though, that the battalion would not be dissolved until after the close of the present Parliamentary session. It is known, however, that the conversation turned on the future of the Seventh, and that the Minister was particularly desirous of obtaining suggestions from the Major on this point. What the latter's reply was has not transpired.

The appointment to the Colonelcy of the new battalion is generally conceded to be between Major Smith and Capt. Tracy, with odds in favour of the latter. Of course, the Department will be greatly influenced in granting the commission by the report of the Deputy Adjutant-General, and the friends of both these gentlemen are playing their cards to the best advantage to enable their respective favourite to gain the appointment. It is admitted on all hands that if a popular man is placed in command there will be a grand rally of the young men of the city eligible for enrolment, and that the Seventh will soon resume its old status, if it does not even surpass it, as one of the first military organizations of the country.

Correspondence.

[This paper does not necessarily share the views expressed in correspondence published in its columns, the use of which is freely granted to writers on topics of interest to the Militia.]

FOUR SERGEANTS PER COMPANY.

Editor Militia Gazette.—The new infantry drill requires four sergeants to each company. Can you inform me whether authority will be given by the Militia Department for the enrolment and pay of this number or only three as formerly?

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A PROBLEM OF THE NEW DRILL.

Editor Militia Gazette.—The new "Infantry Drill, 1889," Part I., sec. 45 (No. 2), directs that "a squad marching * * * to a flank in file will be taught to form fours precisely as when forming from the halt." How can this be done? the formations previous to being formed into fours being so different. I cannot get it through my head how they can move "precisely as at the halt." Can someone help me to get "the idea" through my brain.

MILISH.

March 29th, 1889.

COLOURS CARRIED BY GUARDS OF HONOUR.

Editor Militia Gazette.—In forming a guard of honour for state ceremonials what is the proper routine to be observed in marching on and in marching off the Queen's colour carried by the guard? I can find no directions given save general ones, which are hardly applicable. If anyone familiar with the *modus operandi* from the time the colour is taken from its case till it is returned thereto can inform me what is done, and by whom, and when, he will much oblige,

CAPTAIN.

March 30th, 1889.

ROUTE MARCHING—POSITIONS OF OFFICERS.

Editor Militia Gazette.—Can any of your readers inform me what is the proper place or position of the following officers and n.c.o. of infantry—i. e.: (a) commanding officer; (b) majors; (c) adjutant; (d) staff officers; (e) staff sergeants—when their regiment is marching in column of route, in fours; say, for example, a church parade or a "march out" (as is often indulged in by city corps when performing annual drill) or when going to or from the place of drill? Will the obliging informant kindly also point out the authority for his answer, and much oblige,

SABRETACHE.

March 27th, 1889.