

feature of the day's proceedings.

The band of the 14th, will wear an improved uniform this year. At a recent meeting of the members, the funds necessary to procure the requisite articles were appropriated. The regulation staff caps (peaked) will be adopted, new and improved cross-belts will be procured, and the tunics will be altered in the direction of improvement.

Capt. Hudon of "A" Battery, left for Quebec on March 20th, to take the place of Lieut.-Col. Wilson, who sails for England on the 30th inst., for a special course of instruction.

Sergt. D'Amour left on the following day, for Montreal. He will spend a brief interval visiting friends there before proceeding to Halifax, whence he will sail for England, by steamship Mongolian, on Saturday, the 30th March. This will be Sergt. D'Amour's second visit to England, he having represented "A" Battery on the Canadian Artillery team that visited Shoeburyness in 1886.

Some of the many friends of the Staff-Sergeants and Sergeants of "A" Battery are talking of entertaining their military friends to dinner shortly, to show their appreciation of the courtesies extended to them by the latter. The sergeants of the battery are very popular with the citizens of Kingston.

The people of Barriefield are taking up a collection for a purse to be presented to the Battery as a mark of appreciation of the good work done by the detachment sent to assist in lighting the fire in the village on Tuesday morning, March 19th, when had it not been for the efforts of the gallant artillerymen, very much greater loss would have been sustained by the villagers. Corporal William Bramah, (who is a brother of Gunner J. A. Bramah who has saved so many lives by his intrepidity and powers as a swimmer, and for whom the Royal Humane Society's medal is asked) rendered especially good service on this occasion and by his fearless conduct was the means of saving much valuable property.

The men attached to "A" Battery for the short course of instruction, had their first firing practice last week. The guns were in position on the Fort Henry hill, and the firing was done, at a moving target on the ice. The practice made was very fair.

It is to be sincerely hoped that the Kingston Field Battery will this year awake from the lethargy that has enveloped it in the past, and earn a more creditable reputation than it at present possesses.

On a previous occasion your correspondent dealt with this corps, its opportunities and the advantages taken of them, and in the near future, further space may be devoted to it, not with any desire to do it an injury, but with a sincere wish to see it wake up and do justice to itself.

VEDETTE.

St. John, N. B.

The Bugle Band Sleigh Drive.

The Bugle Band of the 62nd Fusiliers to the number of 18, with Sergeant Woodland in charge, held their sleigh drive last evening. After driving out as far as the Three-mile House they returned to the Officer's club on Charlotte street, where a splendid repast was prepared for them in Mrs. Woodland's best style. Major Sturdee acted as chairman and Mr. Kake as vice, and after full justice had been done to the solids, Major Sturdee made a few remarks, during which he explained that while in England he had arranged for eight chromatic attachments to be sent out, and that this would enable the bugle band to play more perfect music than in the past. He spoke very highly of the work done by the band, and he hoped that the boys would continue to work as they had done in order to make the bugle band a credit to the corps to the officers of the corps, and above all a credit to the band themselves.

Songs were sung by several of the members of the band, and a very enjoyable time was spent. The health of the band committee was drank with all the honors and in replying Major Sturdee referred in very glowing terms to the work which Sergeant Woodland had done for the band and hoped that his connexion with the band would long continue. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the sergeant, and after the hearty thanks of all present had been given to Mrs. Woodland for the fine dinner she supplied, the meeting closed with singing of God Save the Queen. The bugle band sleigh drive was a decided success. —St. John Telegraph.

Toronto.

It looks queer in this young country of ours to read of any company of the active militia giving its thirty-third annual entertainment. Such, nevertheless is a fact and to E Co. of the Queen's Own belongs the proud distinction.

This company celebrated their thirty-third annual on Thursday evening, the 14th march, at Temperance Hall, and with as great success as characterised any of the former events.

To the ex-members of "Thirsty-five" as it used to be called, the bare idea of E. Co. going to Temperance Hall for their "annual" will seem queer, but any misgiving as to the company going to the demnition bow-wows, will be allayed when I inform them that the refreshments were just as varied and just as extensive as those provided at any previous spread.

Capt. Musson presided over the guests and members of the company who had assembled to the number of about 150, among whom were representatives of almost every corps in the district.

Corp. Reeves was presented by Lt.-Col. Hamilton, during the evening, with a handsomely engraved set of sleeve links, given by the members of his company under his guidance for the examination of the N. C. O. class now going out.

The Q. O. R. Buglers paid a visit to the asylum on Friday evening, 15th inst., and under Sergt. Ross gave a revised edition of "Judge McGinty's Court."

This with the fancy drum march under the Bugle-Major, made a very enjoyable evening to the poor unfortunates, who are inmates of the institution.

The annual meeting of the Toronto Rifle Association was held Tuesday evening the 12th inst., in their rooms, on Yonge street. The financial report was received, showing the association to be in a good position, with a good cash balance and no liabilities. It was decided to affiliate with the D.R.A., O.R.A., and N. R. A. The following officers were elected for the ensuing season: Captain Kirkpatrick, president; T. S. Bayles, 1st vice-president; C. Wilson, 2nd vice-president; Lieut. Alf. Curran, secretary and treasurer; W. J. Graham, Capt. Rennie, Lieut. J. Davidson and W. Macdonald, committee; Capt. Mercer and Lieut. A. D. Cartwright, auditors.

"In accordance with instruction received from headquarters" so the order reads that has recently been forwarded to the different regiments, all the Martini Metfords together with all unexpended ammunition have been ordered to be returned to the Supt. of Stores at Toronto without delay.

This order has caused considerable surmising by all ranks, some inclining to the belief that the rifle is not satisfactory, whilst others hold that as these were issued only for experiment, that the experiments are over and that the government has called them in preparatory to a general issue of a larger number.

In view of the many divided opinions that can be obtained relative to the merits of this rifle, it does not seem possible that the government intend anything of the kind, but rather an admission that the rifle in its present shape is not what it might be.

Certainly nothing seems more absurd than issuing them for experiment so late in the season that no satisfactory test could be made, and without knowing how they would work on a hot summer day, as well as a cold raw October afternoon, would tend to debar any rifle shot from giving a final decision.

We have at last heard of the efficiency competition, but never a word of the 200 yards range at the Lake Shore ranges.

The city riflemen look with dread on the prospects of it remaining closed another season, as the effect on the young shots of all the regiments is hurtful in the extreme. No satisfactory plan of working the ranges without this butt has yet been evolved, and the tiresome wait, so notable of the old Garrison Commons, bids fair to make the new ranges a failure.

It would certainly bring the matters to a focus if the rifle committees of the city regiments were to wait on the city members, because the present is a most opportune time to press for what they have every right to demand from the govern-