

kay-Bennett" for the first place on the 31st ult. They rowed the race over again, when the R. E. lost by $1\frac{1}{2}$ seconds. They had to allow the "Mackay-Bennett" crew 45 seconds, they having but 10 oars. The Engineers, not satisfied with their defeat, have issued a challenge to row for \$100 a side.

On the 31st ult. the pyrotechnic display was commenced by the R. A. firing a salute of 6 guns from George's Island at 8.30 p.m. The 62nd Regiment band paid Halifax a visit during the carnival. They played very well, but that French peaked cap of theirs seems out of place on a Canadian militiaman's head. By whose authority are they worn?

GRAVELCRUSHER.

THE LATE GOVERNMENT'S ADMINISTRATION.



QUEBEC, Aug. 14—The inconsistency of the Department of Militia and Defence cannot be better illustrated than in the perusal of the last issued General Orders. On the one hand we note that 15 graduates have been gazetted, and a little further on the appointment of two officers to the permanent militia, neither of whom is a graduate of the Royal Military College of Canada. We also note the fact that 14 gentlemen have passed the entrance examinations for cadetship. It is to be hoped that these new men will not be treated in a similar manner to those who have just completed their four years' course at the institution in question. Entering under a distinct regulation that they will receive the appointments given to those not entitled in any sense to the same, they have simply been misled and not even accorded ordinary justice. It would be interesting to know when this farce will terminate. The two appointments in question are doubtless reminders of the administration of the late Government, who have followed a somewhat inconsistent system of selection during their term of office.

It is quite impossible to understand the actions of the Department. Even in the orders in question, we note that the officer appointed to the infantry holds an artillery certificate, the one appointed to the artillery holds a cavalry certificate, and the one transferred to the cavalry, an artillery certificate, and so on. So very little interest is taken in militia matters by the Canadian public, that almost any regulation can be passed and acted upon or broken to suit any person with political pull, and irrespective of any other consideration. A change of Government, it is sincerely hoped, will produce a marked change in the policy of the Department, and that the vital interests of the force will take and command the respect to which they are entitled, failing which the machinery will become such that it will fail to even attempt to meet the requirements of the militia force.

Messrs. A. S. Evans and G. O. Hayne, graduates of the R.M.C., spent a few days in the city recently. The former leaves in a few days for England, having been a winner of a commission in the Royal Engineers.

A committee meeting of the R.M.C. Club of Canada, was held at the Garrison Club on the evening of the 6th inst., at which several members of the club were in attendance.

A cricket match took place at St. Joseph between teams chosen from "B" F.B. and the band of the R.C.A., resulting in a victory for the latter, the scores being 142 to 91 runs. For the band Br. W. Pugh made 56 runs, the others to reach double figures being Huxley 11 and Pether 19 runs respectively. For the field division,

Br. Mayne Read made 51 runs, the other one to reach double figures being Trumpeter Robert with 15.

On the 25th of July, Capt. R. E. W. Turner, of the Queen's Own Canadian Hussars, was the recipient of an address and shabrack from the officer, N.C.O.'s and men of his troop. Capt. Turner was quite taken by surprise and made a feeling reply. The address was as follows, and was read by Corp. E. J. C. Chambers:

To Captain R. E. W. Turner, commanding "A" Troop Queen's Own Canadian Hussars:

DEAR AND RESPECTED SIR:

We, the undersigned subaltern, non-commissioned officers and men of "A" Troop meet you to-night for what is, to us, a very pleasant purpose—that of congratulating you upon the attainment of the twenty-fifth anniversary of your natal day.

That the years that are past have been more happy and more pleasant to you as they numbered off is, we trust, the case. That they will become even more so as their roll grows larger is our equally heartfelt desire.

For five years past much of your valuable time has been devoted to the interests of this corps, and of "A" Troop in particular, and during that time many of us have been privileged to see you rise from junior subaltern to captain. It is our proud boast to say that never, in our experience, has the troop had a more faithful and painstaking officer, and that if it now shows any degree of proficiency it is to be principally attributed to your own untiring exertions.

The large proportion of old hands under your command is a more eloquent tribute than any words of ours to your tact and ability, and of the love the men bear you. Some, it is true, have disappeared, and their names are no longer on the muster roll, but their absence is accounted for either by the demands of business, or by the trumpet summons of a mightier than any earthly captain.

We thank you for your untiring devotion to the troop as a whole, for your generous consideration of us individually, and above all for the worthy standard of duty set before our eyes by your own example. Your personal sacrifices and unflagging zeal in our behalf are more than we can ever repay.

As a mark, then, of our esteem, we beg your acceptance of the accompanying shabrack, together with our best wishes for the next and all succeeding years.

May you long be spared to grace our gift at the head of the men who so well know and admire you.

Capt. Turner announced that he would present a cup for competition at the Rifle Association matches, to be won three times in succession before becoming the property of any one man.

PATROL.

TORONTO ITEMS.

DOUBTLESS the terribly hot weather of the past fortnight may have caused almost the entire absence of anything approaching an interest or movement in matters military in or around the city. What little interest there is appears to be centred in the approaching matches of the Ontario Rifle Association, but, as recruit classes will shortly be formed by all regiments, matters are expected to soon assume their usual activity.

Considerable speculation is being indulged in as to the probability of the city corps being armed with the Lee-Enfield during the fall drills, and what the various corps intend doing about the new drill. The opinion has been expressed that the new manual and firing exercise should be taught from the very first drill, making the Snider answer for instruction purposes for the meantime. It is stated that a consignment of 1200 new rifles has already reached the city.



Preparations are about concluded for the Ontario Rifle Association matches, which commence at the Long Branch ranges on Tuesday, the 25th inst. It is almost certain that an "At Home" will be given on the afternoon of the last day, at which the main prizes will be publicly presented, possibly by the Mayor of Toronto.

Teams shooting in the "Canada Company" are given the option of using either the Snider or the Martini-Henry, this being the only change in the programme.

Special facilities are given to competitors desirous of camps