Rifle and Target.

At the Creedmoor fall meeting there were 1985 entries in all the matches, an increase of 273 over last year. 11,134 pool target tickets were sold, which fact, the executive officer, Capt. Storey thought showed their importance as a substitute for sighting shots. The net profits of the meeting were \$1,485,08.

The highest scorers of the Altcar Volunteer Rifle Club during the year competed on Saturday the 28th ult., for the Annual Prize, value £5. There was a moderate breeze from the right. Queen's "conditions. The prize was won by Private R. Wade, 1st L. R. V., with 93 points; the first seven averaged 85 3-7 points.

At the Annual Meeting of the N. B. P. R. A., feeling reference was made to the presence of "pot hunters" at the Quebec Provincial Meeting; it is useless to deny that there are some so-called volunteers who go the rounds, and who are quite entitled to the mild insinuation; but we are not prepared to class all those from other Provinces who carried away "leading prizes" in the same category. We think a desire on the part of Provincial Associations to secure a large entrance fee, goes far to encourage visits from the class referred to. The policy adopted by N. B. is worth consideration by sister associations who have for their object "the encouragement of rifle shooting in the Province."

NEW BRUNSWICK.

PROVINCIAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

The eleventh annual meeting was held at St. John on the 2nd inst, Capt. Hy. F. Perley, the president, filled the chair; there was also present: Lieut-Colonels Maunsell, D. A. G., Macshane, B. M., Beer and Blain, Major Arnold, sccretary, Captains Arnold, Ewing, Hazen and King, Lieutenants Hunter, Loggie, Hartt, Shives, Worden and Sergeant Weyman.

The financial statement was read by the secretary-treasurer, showing the receipts to have been

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from the following sources :-	
Balance\$ 377	
Cash from Dominion Government 1,300	00
Special " 300	00
Provincial Government 100	00
Members' fees 98	00
St. John, Kings, Carleton and York	
Association fees 80	00
Entrance fees in matches 181	7.5
Sighting and other tickets 146	80
Ammunition sales 203	50
Overcharges 5	85

52,703 1

The expenses were within \$175.06, which is the balance, but there is a sum of about \$80 to be added to the above, as returns from one half of the expenses of the Wimbledon team.

The council's annual report stated that the annual matches were shot at Sussex, and though the competition may be classed as one of the most successful of any that have been held since the institution of the association in 1867, yet only 72 marksmen were present, being 12 than last year and 29 less than in 1876. cash, divided into a greater number of prizes, was offered than in the preceding years, and everything was done to induce marksmen to be present, but all failed to procure a larger attendance. The Council had scanned the reports of the different county associations and found that The Council had scanned the reports of the attendance at them had been much lower than usual, and it would appear there is a falling off in the interest of rifle shooting throughout the province, which augurs badly for the morale of the Active Militia, for there cannot be any doubt but that a real interest in shooting tends to keep up the esprit de corps of a company or battalion. As one reason for this falling off in attendance it is but fair to state that owing to the system adopted for the annual drill of the

Active Militia during the present and past few years, less than one half of the quota to which New Brunswick is entitled is brought into service. Consequently, many who previously studied the soldier's weapon have withdrawn from local contests.

The range at Sussex had, by a resolution passed at the last annual meeting, been secured for a further term of three years. An inspection of the butts this spring showed that, with the exception of the pool butts, built last year, they were much decayed and required rebuilding. Advantage was taken of this; the old butts were entirely renewed, and ten new ones were constructed, and the targets changed to the plan known as "LL-Col. Beer's patent rising system," and the success of this year's competition was due in a great measure to their use. The association has now eleven butts complete, with one extra set of targets. A new system of signalling, also of Lt-Col. Beer's invention, was adopted, and worked admirably.

Mention was made of the courtesy of Superintendent Clinch and General Manager Robinson, of the Western Union Telegraph Co., in putting up wires on the range. A building for the accommodation of competitors had also been constructed, and contributed much to their comfort, in fact the council has to congratulate the association upon having one of the most completely fitted up and satisfactory ranges in Canada.

The 1879 Wimbledon selection competitions were again incorporated in the prize list. New Brunswick had ten members on the team of the present year, yet, in common with the other members, they were not as successful at Wimbledon as track bored they would be

don as was hoped they would be.

A sum of \$300 had been received from the Militia Department towards the rebuilding and placing the range in order. This was the first amount the association has ever received, outside of the regular grant, from the Dominion, thus differing from the associations in other provinces, which have annually received sums for rental, caretakers, repairs, construction of butts, etc., all of which have heretofore had to be defrayed out of the current revenues of the association.

The expenditure of the year includes the expenses of the Wimbledon contingent to Quebec last year \$169.10, the usual affiliation fees to National and Dominion Rifle Associations, \$55; the cost of altering and preparing the ranges, targets, etc., was \$503.78; the expenses of the annual competition amounted to \$312.54, and the balance on hand is \$175.

It was deemed highly advisable that a distribution of a much larger number of the prize lists, prior to the matches coming off, should be made; and, if possible, they should be sent directly to those who are likely to attend. When placed for the first time in the hands of competitors at the commencement of the matches, the prize list is more apt to be scanned and consulted, than the rules and regulations to be studied. This year a difficulty occurred on one or two points, notably that of uniform, and as a bye-law permits competitors to shoot in matches not partaking of a military character in plain clothes, it should be made most distinctly plain what is intended by plain clothes and what by uniform. and thus avoid the hybrid appearance which quite a number of competitors presented during the late competition and which was properly condemned by the commandant.

It was resolved that a revision of the bye-laws be made, as the majority being mere shooting rules, they were often found to clash with the regulations it has been necessary to adopt.

NURSERY MATCHES.

Lt.-Col. Maunsell regretted that the report did not speak of a nursery match, pure and simple, to encourage the younger shots. He moved that a bona fide nursery match be recommended to be provided by the council, and Lt.-Col. Blaine seconded the motion.

Lt.-Col. Beer favored the idea. He thought that there should be a certain amount in each match for men who had never won a prize. It would not depreciate the shooting, and, besides, it would give a chance to the rising shots.

The president spoke on the subject. He did not believe that the provincial matches were the place for nursery matches, but that the country or battalion competitions should nurture the young shots. Still he would be willing to sink his feelings and make it all a grand nursery—anything for the benefit of the shooting.

Lt.-Col. Macshane held that there should be

Lt.-Col. Macshane held that there should be one first-class prize in one match and not prizes in each match for the men—give them something to fight over.

Lt. Hunter advocated the county associations as the nurseries, and thought it would not be a bad idea for the provincial to give a sum for the nursers to each county.

purpose to each county.

Lt.-Col. Blaine said that the crack shots, he noticed, liked to come in and take off the big

Lt. Hunter considered that it was a good deal the fault of the officers of the corps that their men were no better shots. He thought that any man could become a good shot by paying attention to it.

Capt. Ewing favored the proposition, and on the motion being put was carried.

A MOVE TO ADMIT ALL CANADA

It was moved by Lieut. Shives and seconded by Sergt. Thompson that the matches of the association be open to all Canada being members, except the matches for the Maunsell and Prince of Wales cups.

There was considerable discussion over this and the universal opinion was that it would be detrimental to the interests of rifle shooting in the Province. It had been the case in Quebec and it was found that "pot hunters" took off the leading prizes last season. The motion was negatived.

A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THANKS

was tendered the president, Capt. Perley, for past services. It was put to the meeting by Vice-President Parks, and replied to by Capt. Perley. Votes of thanks were ordered to be conveyed to the Western Union and Dominion Telegraph Companies for placing their wires on trange; as well as the secretary of the association, commandant, unpire and range officer.

OFFICERS FOR 1878-79.

Capt. Perley was nominated for the presidency, but reaffirmed his intimation to retire. The officers chosen are as follows:—

President—Major J. H. Parks.

Vice-President-Lieut.-Col. Macshane.

Members of Council in Dominion Association

—Capt. Perley, Capt. Tilton and Mr. Domville,

M. P.

Council.

Major O. R. Arnold, Capt. Ewing, Capt. E. Arnold, Lieut. Hunter, Capt. Hazen, Lieut.-Col. Underhill, Park A. Melville, Capt. Hartt, Major Stickney. Lieut. Loggie, Or.-Master Lipsett, Lieut. Hartt, Capt. Langstroth, Lieut, Shives, Capt. J. A. Ring, Sergt. Weyman, Major Call, Lieut. Fraser, Sergt. Thompson, Lieut. Fraser.

Capt. Perley, the retiring president, was elected a vice patron.

It was moved by Capt. Ewing, seconded by Lt.-Col. Beer, and unanimously carried, that this association do thank the editor and staff of the Daily Telegraph for the deep interest they have always manifested in its welfare, and for the many full and valuable reports which have from time to time appeared in the columns of that paper.

The association then adjourned.