

lated with such a laudable pride in their achievements, that they will be anxious to win laurels in other fields, and a Dominion Manufacturers' Exhibition will be felt to be a necessity. That our manufacturers would learn much from comparing notes with those of the Upper Provinces cannot be disputed, but at the same time we imagine our Upper Province friends would have their eyes opened, and their ideas of our resources and capabilities very much enlarged, by the display we could make at a Dominion Exhibition.

We have received a letter from Mr. Fraser, the Secretary of the Ontario Manufacturers' Association, on the above subject (that of forming a Dominion Association) and suggesting that the Inter-provincial Exhibition, to be held at Montreal in October next, would be a suitable time and place for delegates from the different Provincial Associations to meet and consider the matter.

NEW FELT HELMET.—We were yesterday shown through the courtesy of the ADJUTANT GENERAL, a new Felt Helmet, recently imported from England by Lieut. Colonel SMART of Port Hope, for the Cavalry under his command. It is grey in colour, bound round the rim with brass, the spike on the top of the helmet being also of brass—in shape and appearance it resembles that worn by the Prussian troops. The inside leather lining is attached to the helmet by India-rubber balls—something quite new. The weight of the helmet is only three quarters of a pound; but by removing the spike from the top, and substituting leather for the brass binding, it would not weigh more than half a pound. It could be made to answer the three arms of the service—Artillery and Infantry, as well as Cavalry—no spike being necessary in the hats of the two former. In our humble opinion it is just the kind of head-dress that was wanted, but the great drawback against its being adopted by the Military Authorities is its cost. If it could be manufactured in this country at a reasonable price, such as the country could afford to give, then the Government might be induced to adopt it. Even if it did cost a little more than the present head-dress, in the end, we believe it would be found the cheapest. Colonel SMART is a popular and painstaking officer, who looks well after the comforts of the men under his command, and by whom he is deservedly loved and respected.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

The Queen's Birthday in Halifax. To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

Perhaps a description however imperfect of the review of Her Majesty's and the local forces on the Common at the rear of the Citadel, may prove not altogether uninteresting to some of your readers. I fell in with the 1st Battalion 60th Rifles on their way to the ground from their quarters in the Cit-

adel, and was at once struck with their extreme neatness, smartness and force. There can be no doubt of their being a very *pushing* lot. Even the unmilitary stranger could see at a glance that it was a battalion up to the mark in everything that could be expected of such troops, and a great deal is expected of the "Royal Americans," as they were once called. The playing of their band with a bugle accompaniment, the bugle corps marching in front, was both sweet and strong and of the most stirring kind. The common presented a confused appearance at first, but a few men easily cleared the square and people remained outside after that, as they always do when the "regulars" are present; perhaps they are fonder of the Volunteers for they never give them room to move but stick to them like leeches. A long time ago when it was quite new, seeing their sons and brothers gorgeously arrayed in military apparel, tradition says that bayonet charges, had to be executed to enable the "boys" to get a cartridge out of their pouch.

The troops which received the senior officer of the garrison, who, in the absence of Lieut. General O'Grady Daly, C.B., was Colonel Luard, with a general salute, were formed in line in the following order: Volunteer Field Battery six Armstrong guns; 2 Batteries Royal Artillery, Major Brown; the 57th Regiment Royal Irish Fusiliers, Lt. Col. N. Stevenson; the 1st Battalion 60th "Royal" Rifles, Major Dundas; 1st Brigade Militia Artillery, Lt. Col. Mitchell; 66th Battalion, "Halifax Volunteer Infantry," Lieut. Col. Bremner; 63rd Battalion "Halifax Volunteer Rifles," Lt. Col. Pallister. After firing *a feu de joie*, the men took off their caps and gave three cheers for the Queen. Very shortly after the march past took place. First came the Field Battery, of whose performance I can say nothing not being at all up in their drill, followed by the Royal Artillery looking well as they always do; proudly swept after them the Irish Fusiliers 400 Bayonets, an irresistible torrent of life and force looking perfection itself; then dashed along the 60th Rifles also 400 strong, neat and compact and with the general aspect that they could not be denied of in earnest. The Canadian Militia formed the second Brigade under the command of Colonel Laurie D. A. G., late 4th "King's Own Royals," an able and favorite officer, who was attended by a numerous staff numerous enough it seemed to me for ten times as many men. The 1st Brigade Militia Artillery rank and file moved steadily along followed by the 66th Batt. 180 Bayonets, who not only looked weaker than usual but did not appear to march as well and had a neglected air, for while the other corps rejoiced in busbies they had been turned off with glengaries, while odd enough the officers wore shakoos; the 63rd Rifles brought up the rear, and very well they did it—they numbered 180 men and looked compact and

steady, and they would have looked much better if they had received the new uniforms in time for this parade. They sport a Highland Piper handed down to this generation by the old Scottish company. The handsome pair of colors presented to them by the ladies of Halifax seems to be "confined to barracks." Perhaps they don't care to wave much over less than six hundred Bayonets, the number that once gathered about them. I feel obliged to say that the Volunteers seemed sadly in want of drill. There is no doubt about it that three or four hours *exercice* in the dark, in a double sense, was scarcely adequate to qualify them to muster with crack regiments of Her Majesty's Army, nor can I account for the apparently obstinate manner in which they were wholly excluded from all the advantages afforded by the Drill Shed, which was erected by the Government of Nova Scotia for their use and benefit, not only all the Winter and Spring but up to the last moment *the military school* occupying it all that time, it seems to me with doubtful benefit to the service, if those who pass through the School and become officers are obliged to instruct their recruits at night in the open air *suble gmine*.

SPACE TREE.

Provincial Rifle Association:

The semi-annual meeting of the Council of the Provincial Rifle Association took place at the Gordon House, St. John, on Thursday evening last. There was a fair attendance from St. John, Fredericton, St. Stephen, Sussex and elsewhere, including the Deputy Adjutant General, Lt. Col. Maunsell.

After the reading and approving of the minutes of the former meeting, Lt. Col. Beer gave a *viva voce* report of his mission to Ottawa last winter as the delegate of the Association. While this report in the main was highly satisfactory, a majority of the Council took exception to the regulation which required competitors for Wimbledon to travel to and compete at Ottawa. Hitherto the scores made at the Provincial competitions have been accepted, and this plan had always proved satisfactory. The new regulation appeared unreasonable and unjust.

On motion of Quartermaster Hogg, seconded by Capt. Armstrong of St. John, it was decided, after a sharp debate, to hold the forthcoming annual matches of the Association at the Rifle Range in the City of Fredericton, the local Association offering the use of the Range free of charge. The matches will accordingly take place in this city commencing about 1st September prox.

The Wimbledon regulations will be adhered to in every particular. Any position at all ranges, including the 200 yds., except for the Prince of Wales' Cup. No coaching or shading allowed.

A Watch, to be substituted for the Gold Medal of the Association, will be awarded this year as last.

The meeting was most harmoniously conducted, and the members separated with the full desire of making the forthcoming competition satisfactory to the competitors and conducive to the future prosperity of the Association.—N. B. Reporter.