

Government and Parliament for their continued active interest in the affairs of the association.

Col. Panet, Deputy Minister, acknowledged the vote of thanks to the Minister, who could not be present himself on account of having to meet two deputations.

Lieut.-Col. Amyot moved, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Denison, a vote of thanks to the donors of prizes.

Lieut.-Col. Prior moved, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Todd, a vote of thanks to Lieut.-Col. Roberts for granting the use of the Cambridge University Rifle Range last year and this.

Lieut.-Col. Gravely moved, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Todd, That this Association welcomes Major-General Herbert to Canada, and trusts that the riflemen of the Dominion may receive his patronage and encouragement.

Major-General Herbert returned thanks for the compliment. He endorsed the opinion expressed by the Governor-General as to the extreme necessity of rifle practice and of a good arm for that purpose. Though the Snider was once a very good weapon, its day was long since past, and he thought we should substitute for it a weapon of perfect reliability. He felt that the authorities of this country were of the same opinion.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Lord Stanley rose to propose the re-election of Lt.-Colonel Hon. Geo. A. Kirkpatrick as president of the association and in doing so made a graceful reference to the high honour just conferred upon that gentleman in being appointed a member of the Privy Council. General Herbert seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried. Lt.-Colonel Kirkpatrick spoke in acknowledgment, disclaiming any personal credit for the success of the association, which he felt was largely due to his able council and executive. He had so long held the office that he felt that another year he should have to retire to allow some one else to share the honour and responsibility.

The vice-presidents were then re-elected as follows:—Ontario, Lt.-Colonel Allan Gilmour, Ottawa; Quebec, Robert Hamilton, Quebec; New Brunswick, Lt.-Colonel Hon. A. E. Botsford, Sackville; Nova Scotia, Lt.-General J. W. Laurie, Oakfield; Manitoba, Hon. M. A. Girard; British Columbia, Hon. W. J. Macdonald, Victoria; Prince Edward Island, Hon. A. Macdonald. The last named is the only change, he taking the place of the late Senator Haythorne. In connection with the re-election of General Laurie it was mentioned that he was about to return to Canada.

The members of Council elected at last annual meeting were re-elected with a few changes. Lieut. Sutherland, 13rd, was added to the Ontario list, and Capt. O'Grady, 13rd, took his place on the Prince Edward Island list. Senator Ogilvie was the only new member for Quebec. Two new members, Mr. J. D. Hazen, M.P., and Capt. McRobbie were elected for New Brunswick; and two new members, Major Garrison and Major Barnhill, for Nova Scotia. For Manitoba, Capt. Hugh J. Macdonald, M.P., took the place of Mr. Scarth, his predecessor in the House.

Lord Stanley then moved, seconded by General Herbert, a vote of thanks to the chairman. This was carried and the meeting adjourned.

#### MEETING OF THE NEW COUNCIL.

The council then met, Lieut.-Colonel William White in the chair in the absence of Lt.-Col. Onimet, who was re-elected chairman but had to leave to attend another meeting. The first business was the election of an executive and last year's members were re-elected, with the substitution of the name of Capt. O'Grady for Major Perley and of Lt.-Colonel Massey for Major Bond. Much regret was expressed at the retirement of Major Perley, who on account of ill health had intimated that he could not continue to serve and a committee was appointed to prepare

an address to be suitably illuminated and presented to him.

Lt.-Colonel White, Lt.-Colonel Tilton and Major Toller were re-elected a finance committee.

Capt. O'Grady asked a reconsideration of the "efficiency clause" applied to competitors, holding that it discriminated unfairly in favour of the commissioned officers. The sense of the meeting was, however, against a re-opening of the question.

There being no further business the Council then adjourned.

The following were the reports presented and adopted:—

#### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

The Council has the honour to submit the Twenty-third Annual Report of the Proceedings of the Association, and at the same time has pleasure in congratulating its members on a successful season.

Anticipating a large increase in the number of competitors, your Council considered it advisable to increase the shooting accommodation of the Rideau, so as to ensure the matches being completed in about the same time as heretofore. To insure this, the target trench was extended so as to make room for eight new targets, thus increasing the accommodation nearly one-third, making thirty-three targets, as compared with twenty-five previously; and other extensive and necessary improvements were made which entailed such heavy expense as to materially reduce the balance shown by the Treasurer to be at the credit of the Association last year.

The report of the commandant of the Bisley team will well repay perusal, and shows that Canada's representatives acquitted themselves well, as, although they did not succeed in carrying off the Kolapore Cups, they won the very handsome sum of £379 in money prizes, and had four competitors in the last stage of the "Queen's" Prize, an achievement which has never before been effected by any team.

The reference by the commandant of the team to the berth accommodation afforded to the members by the steamship company deserves consideration, and if arrangements can be made to secure upper cabin berths for all members of the team, a very great advantage will be gained.

The suggestion made by Col. Prior as to securing the range at Cambridge has been taken advantage of, and your Council has received a letter from Lt.-Col. Roberts, the officer commanding the Cambridge University Volunteer Rifles, promising the use of the range for this year's Bisley team's practice. The Association is much indebted to that officer for his continued interest in the Canadian team.

The annual matches of the Association, held at the Rideau Range, Ottawa, in September last, were largely attended, and more Canadian militiamen competed than on any previous occasion since the year 1868.

The shooting was very good, and an improvement on the previous year, as will be seen by a comparison of the scores in the Grand Aggregate and other matches. The prize list and general arrangement of the matches appeared to give satisfaction to the attendant competitors.

It is hoped that the impetus given to rifle shooting by the inauguration of the Military Rifle League last year will have the effect of largely increasing the attendance at the annual matches of the Association this year.

The thanks of the Association are again due to His Excellency the Governor-General, Lord Stanley of Preston, for his liberal contribution to the funds of the Association, and for the very great interest he takes in the welfare of the Association, and for his gift of silver and bronze medals to the different provincial rifle associations in the Dominion.

To the Government and members of Parliament the thanks of the Association are again due for the liberal grant voted last year.

To the Hon. Minister of Militia and Defence, Sir Adolphe P. Caron, K.C.M.G., the Association is indebted for his continued interest in the affairs of the Association.