

ourselves, such as wind screens, disc marking, sighting shots, &c., &c., and a splendid ground to fire over.

Were the Government to contribute towards sending home a team to Wimbledon, it would be a most profitable investment, for the result would be a great revival of the spirit of rifle practice; ranges would spring up all over the country, and the desire to become a "delegate" produce the greatest efficiency in the use of the weapon on which we have to rely on in the hour of danger, and without a knowledge thereof, as is universally admitted, drill is of but little avail. Trusting that the assemblage of the delegates to meet here on the 15th will be the inauguration of a better state of affairs, so that rifle practice may be placed before the public of Canada in its proper light.

I remain, Sir,

Very truly yours,

PROGRESS.

P. S.—A code of By-laws to regulate all future rifle matches throughout the provinces might be adopted at this conference, after the same mode as the National Rifle Association of Great Britain, where this system has been adopted to great advantage, and the want of which is so much felt in this country.

### THE "QUEEN'S OWN."

#### ANNUAL SUPPER OF NO. 5 COMPANY.

The annual supper of No. 5 Company, "Queen's Own" Rifles came off in the Terapin restaurant, and as was anticipated, proved a very agreeable affair in every respect. Captain Edwards occupied the chair. He was supported on the right by Lieut. Col. Gilmour, Paymaster Harris, Quartermaster Jackson and Ensign Ellis, and on his left by His Worship the Mayor, Major Dixon, Adjutant Otter, Dr. May and Lieut. Lee. The viands provided were of the best that could be procured, and reflected credit as usual upon the catering abilities of the proprietor of this deservedly popular restaurant. Upon the removal of the cloth,

The Chairman rose and requested the company to charge their glasses, as he was about to propose a toast which he was sure would meet with a hearty reception. Before doing so, however, he wished to say a few words. He then spoke as follows:—From the formation of the 5th Company of our Regiment till now it has been our custom to meet for an annual supper. Former similar occasions have afforded us the opportunity of strengthening the ties that bind us together in our respective positions as members of the volunteer force. This occasion will, I am sure, prove no exception to the rule. It occurs to me that a brief review of our past history may be productive of self reliance for the future. Called together by the presumed exigencies in which our country was involved in 1861, we, under the command of Capt. W. Murray, Lieut. A. Coulson, then Ensign—now Captain and Quartermaster—J. Jackson, resolved to stand shoulder to shoulder in defence of our hearths and homes. More recent events have proved that we were then in the path of duty. But at what personal cost have we continued in the service? I could have wished to lay this feature of our organization fully before you. The absence of our honorary secretary-treasurer, private W.

Anderson (now in Europe), who has charge of the company records, compels me to confine myself to a few leading facts worth remembering. The muster rolls of our corps show that in the ranks of No. 5 at least 300 young men (who have been engaged in business houses in this city) have been taught military drill and discipline, chiefly at our and their own cost; 13 of its members have accepted commissions in this and similar volunteer organizations; 35 of its members have earned either first or second class certificates from military schools or volunteer boards of examiners. During 1865 and 1866 the handsome sum of \$1,320.93c was contributed by members for the maintenance and interior economy of the corps, chiefly realized from monthly fees—the remainder by an abandonment of government pay to company purposes. This amount, with the exception of about \$200 invested for future emergencies, has been expended in extra clothing, care of arms and armory, rifle-range expenses, conveyance of members to and from the same company rifle match prizes, purchase of requisites for use while on service in camp, and innumerable other expenses incurred for the welfare of the company. And I may safely assert, that our expenses for 1865 and '66 were even proportionably less than for 1862, '63 and '64. In another direction our contributions have been immeasurably great. I refer to the loss of the valuable lives and the maiming of others while on active service. Our late honorary member Captain and Paymaster J. Houston Richey, 10th Royals, whose death resulted from exposure while on active service, will long be remembered as one of our original number and most earnest promoter of No. 5 Company. Our late Ensign Malcolm McEachren, killed in action at Limeridge, beloved and respected by all who had the honor of his acquaintance, can never be forgotten; our esteemed comrades, Privates Chas. T. Bell, and Edward Capp, both wounded in action at Limeridge, are with us this evening. (Cheers.) A few words on another subject. Lately we have been treated to newspaper paragraphs on the reluctance of employers to allow Volunteers to attend any drills that may inconvenience their business. Why not give us some examples on the other side of this question? I must relate one for our mutual encouragement. After our march in the mud on Wednesday last, one of our leading merchants whose establishment is within a stone's throw of this, thoughtfully provided his junior clerk (a vol.) with leggings to protect his uniform on similar occasions. The establishment of the gentleman referred to was left almost without clerks or salesmen (they being Volunteers) during the June raid last year. The son and partner once in the ranks of No. 5, is now travelling in Europe to recover from a painful wound received while in command of skirmishers at Limeridge. In view of past events we may not forget that in case of our services again being required it is to the Volunteer forces supporting the action of detachments of the British army who are here for our defence that every eye will be turned, confidently expecting that our duty as soldiers will be manfully performed, and although some may at present with more zeal worship the Almighty Dollar than be jealous of our national honor, yet be assured that from even such if for sordid reasons only, we will then receive a hearty support. (Cheers.) The eventful changes that are approaching in the shape of a more extended nationality will, doubtless, embrace a better equalization of the responsibilities hitherto laid on the shoulders of the active force. I wish to

propose a toast that ever finds a hearty response in the breasts of loyal men—Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, God Bless her. (Cheers.)

The remainder of the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were then given and duly honored, followed by the health of Major-General Michel, Corporal Edwards and Private J. Grey sang a duett—"Larboard Watch." The chairman then proposed the health of the "Mayor and Corporation." (Cheers.) The Mayor returned thanks in a brief speech; and in doing so said he was happy to be able to state that arrangements had been perfected that evening to provide quarters for the 17th Regiment. (Loud cheers.)

The Chairman then proposed the health of Lieut. Col. Gilmour and the Officers of the Regiment. (Cheers.)

Lieut. Col. Gilmour returned thanks for the warm manner in which his name had been received. He expressed his regret that some members of the battalion had been compelled to withdraw from it on account of the opposition of their employers. In closing his remarks he proposed the health of Captain Edwards, the leader of the advanced guard at Ridgeway. (Cheers.)

Capt. Edwards replied in suitable terms.

Major Dixon, Adjutant Otter, Paymaster Harris, Quartermaster Jackson and Dr. May also returned thanks. Capt. Edwards then proposed the health of Capt. Murray [former Capt. of No. 5] and the ex-members of the company. (Cheers.) Ex-member King sang a song in excellent style. The chairman then proposed the health of Sergt. Rattery and Col. Sergeant McIntosh—ex-members. (Cheers.) Both these gentlemen replied in suitable terms. The chairman then proposed the health of the subaltern officers of No. 5 Company. (Cheers.) Lieut. Lee, who has been in the company for eleven years, returned thanks, and was followed by Ensign Ellis in a neat speech. Private Creighton sang "Pat Milloy," and received a hearty encore. Vice-chairman Lickman then gave—"The Memory of our Fallen Comrades," which was drunk in solemn silence. Private Gun sang a song—"Our Comrades that were slain." Several Volunteer toasts—including the press and ladies—were then given and responded to, after which the company separated, having spent a very pleasant evening.

A TELEGRAM announces that the screw steam transport 'Orontes' arrived at Queenstown on the 18th ult, with troops from Quebec. The 'Orontes' will probably return with the 25th K. O. Borderers.

SUDDEN DEATH.—On Thursday morning, a private of the 30th Regiment named Saunders, quartered at the Jesuit Barracks, Quebec, went into one of the out-houses, in apparent good health, just after taking his breakfast. He sat down on a seat, fell over against the wall in a state of insensibility, and almost immediately expired. Death is believed to have been caused by disease of the heart. Deceased was about 25 years of age.

MILITARY SCHOOL.—The following cadets attending the Toronto Military School passed a creditable second-class examination before Col. McKinstry on the 1st inst: Ensign C. S. Dudman, Ashburnham, Ensign W. H. Ellis, Tullamore; John Bryant, Oshawa; Nelson Washington, Bowmanville; Wm. Ormrood, Brompton; Wm. T. Lockhart, Orono; James Henwood, Port Hope; Edward Fair, Drumbo.