

Report of the Executive Committee.

FIELD ARTILLERY PRACTICE.

1. Owing to the very late date (3rd August) on which the order for Annual Drill was published, the limited period allowed for drill, and the reduced vote for drill pay, etc., it was not found possible to make arrangements for competitive gun practice.

2. Range-finding practice, at which credits were awarded for fire discipline, was, however, very successfully carried out by the twelve batteries which performed their annual drill in 1895.

3. Prizes were awarded by the Association for a general competition in Gun-laying, Questions and Standing Gun Drill, and also for battery competitions in Gun-laying and Fuze-boring.

4. The general result of these competitions, as shown in the published returns, and of the general system of combining Range-finding and Fire-discipline at the annual inspection must be considered as very satisfactory and encouraging, and indicates in nearly every instance a very considerable amount of preliminary training and instruction at voluntary drills.

5. The Committee suggest that in future the gun-laying and fuze-boring competitions be for battery prizes only and be conducted by the officer commanding the battery before the inspection, as, under ordinary conditions, there is not sufficient time to hold these competitions on the day of inspection. It is also suggested, as an alternative, that the number of gun-layers be reduced from 12 to 6 and those for fuze-boring to 4. These competitors to be previously selected, by trial, by the officer commanding the battery.

6. The Committee are glad to notice that the special courses held at Kingston during May were attended by six Majors and ten Captains of batteries, and hope that these courses may be continued and their advantages participated in by all Field Artillery officers.

DRILL AND DRIVING COMPETITION.

7. Owing to the limited period allowed for drill only three batteries were able to enter for this competition: best time, 2 min. 52¾ secs., by Durham Battery. "A" Battery, R. C. A., established a record for the average time of six sub-divisions in 2 min. 11⅔ secs.