

before the Company had received their arms, they had one hundred and five members on the roll. The captaincy was first of all offered to Captain (now Colonel Haultain), but he was unable to accept the position. The first annual meeting was held on December 6th, when the rules of the corps were adopted, and the following officers elected:—Captain, Mr. Moir; first lieutenant, Mr. W. McCallum; second lieutenant, Mr. M. Kielly; sergeants, Timothy Lynch, Benj. Holmes, Emilius Le Roy, Chas.



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MR. H. N. WARNER.

Heaphy; corporals, Jas. McC. Clark, Wm. Waddell, John Batger and Harry Ziegler. Mr. George Fraser was secretary of the corps.

Members, on joining the corps, had to pay an entrance fee of one shilling, and a subscription of one shilling per month. The fine for absence from drill without excuse was also one shilling, and the fines were set apart to form a prize fund for shooting contests. The bugler was paid fifteen shillings a month for his services, the same emolument being paid by the Royals.

On the suggestion of Captain Balneavis, the City Rifles and the Royals agreed to drill together one morning in each week, commencing in February, 1859. Then arose the vexed question of seniority, which was for a long while a disputed point between the two companies. While the point was still at issue, the question of priority of position when on parade was got over in rather an amusing manner. At one parade the Royals took the right of the line and the City Rifles the left, while on the next occasion the positions were reversed. After a while a third corps, the Rutland Rifles, came into existence, and as neither of the old rivals would give up their claim to an end of the line, the Rutlands were placed in the centre when the companies paraded, and the other two interchanged from right to left alternately as before. By and by the Victorias and the Parnell Rifles were formed, and still the question as to which was the senior corps remained unsettled. By this time the constant interchanging of the two rival companies had come to be regarded as rather childish, so the officers decided to settle the seniority once and for all. "Let's toss up," suggested the City captain. This, however, did not satisfy the Royals' officer, and eventually it was agreed that the corps which could produce the oldest documentary evidence of its existence should be acknowledged the senior. It so happened that the promoter of the Royals, being a methodical business man (he was chief clerk in the Customs), had put in writing the various steps taken towards getting the company accepted by the Government. Some of his documents were in the possession of the Royals' captain, and as they were of earlier date than the City Rifles' records, the Royals were proclaimed the senior corps. But the City captain would not agree to his company being No. 2 on parade. "We're entitled to one end of the line," said he, "and if we can't have the top we'll go to the bottom. Our corps will be No. 6." And No. 6 the Rifles were accordingly gazetted. Such is the version given by one