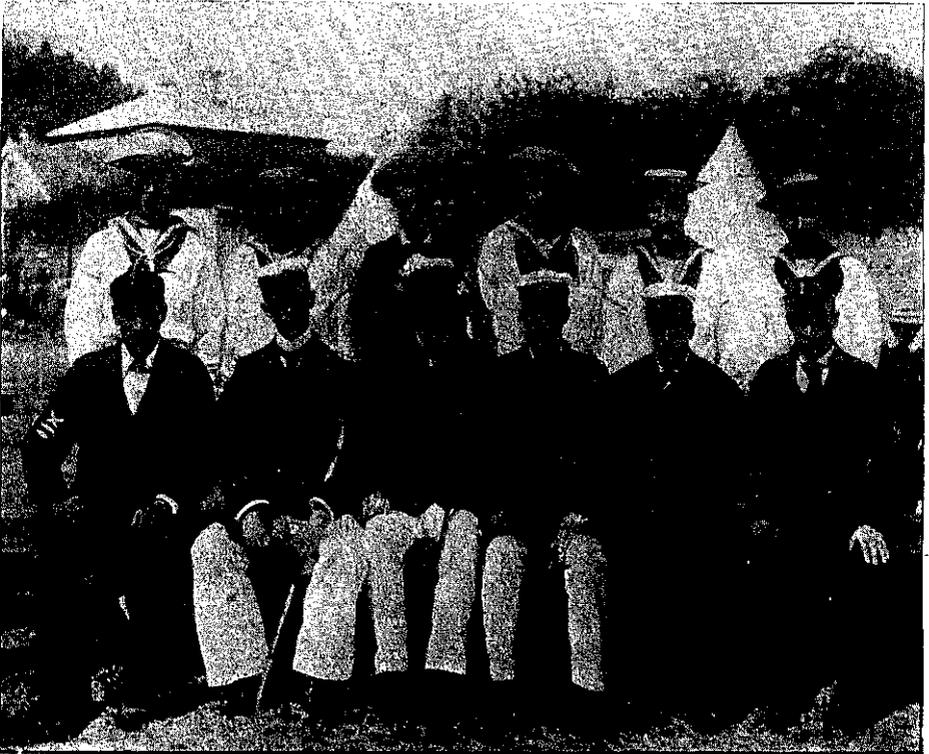


to Captain Daldy, who gave place to Captain Breton, the director of the Kohimarama Training School. About this time the corps were placed on day duty at the Miranda redoubt at the Thames, their duty being to land provisions for the Imperial troops stationed there at the time.

The Navals, unlike the rifle companies, never saw any active fighting. The nearest approach they had to active service was in 1863. Word reached Auckland that the Maoris were mustering at Waiuku with the

from the Waikato to Waiuku to assist in quelling the threatened uprising, and came very near engaging the Auckland troops in mistake for the enemy, being doubtless misled by the sight of the canoes. Returning up the Manakau with the captured canoes, the Navals landed at Mangere, and here another amusing mistake occurred. They were actually mistaken once more for a body of natives, and the Auckland Rifles, who had just reached Otahuhu, were ordered across to oppose their landing. This order



Vaile,

OFFICERS AND N.C.O.'S, DEVONPORT SUBMARINE MINERS.

Auckland.

intention of coming up the Manukau Harbour, and attacking Onehunga. The Navals were ordered to proceed to Waiuku to quell the rising. The force proceeded to Onehunga, and then down the Manukau to Waiuku. It was destined to prove a bloodless campaign. They found over a hundred canoes collected at the river-mouth, but the Maoris themselves, thinking discretion the better part of valour, had decamped. Meanwhile the Waikato Militia, under Captain Lloyd, had marched down

was countermanded, and the cavalry were just about to be despatched in their stead when the mistake was discovered. Thus ended the expedition. It was certainly the irony of fate to be twice mistaken for the opponents whom they themselves had been looking for in vain.

Some volunteer officers took their responsibilities very lightly in those early days of the movement. In 1867 the authorities woke up to the fact that both the lieutenants of the Auckland Navals had been