

Fund raising for the H.Q. Building and Drill Hall, 1st Gloucestershire Volunteers, Artillery Ground, Clifton, Bristol.

[extract from newspapers of unknown date and Name, possibly 1861]

To raise money for the Corps so that it could discharge the debt, that the unit had incurred to build the drill hall and the cost of two Armstrong 12 pr Field guns, the unit laid on various events.

During five days of the past week a military *fête* and fancy fair were held in the grounds of the 1st Gloucestershire (Bristol) Volunteer Artillery Corps, in aid of the funds for the purchase of two Whitworth rifled guns and carriages, and for the erection of buildings for the headquarters of the corps. The affair was most successful. In addition to a bazaar presided over by the wives or relatives of the officers of the corps, there were a museum, in which a fine collection of pictures, arms, antiques, and curiosities was exhibited; a Richardsonian theatre, at which the Bristol Histrionic Club drew crowded houses to witness two sensational dramas written specially for the occasion by Mr. J. A. Otty and Mr. G. F. Powell; a comic circus, at which members of the Artillery Corps were the principal performers, aided by a professional clown; Ethiopian serenaders, wandering minstrels, &c. The presentation of the guns took place on Saturday, and was made by the Mayoress (Mrs. S. V. Hare), who had been indefatigable in her exertions as a stall-keeper during the week, and was acknowledged in suitable terms by Major Savill, commandant. The accounts have yet to be made up, but it is certain that a very large sum has been realized for the objects for which the *fête* was given.

The annual prize meeting of the 1st Gloucestershire (City of Bristol) Volunteer Artillery Corps was held on Saturday at Avonmouth, when prizes, amounting in the aggregate to 110*l.*, were competed for. The champion prizes, consisting of a silver gun, badge, and 3*l.* added, open only to members in the first class, five shots at each range (150, 200, 250, and 300 yards), target 6ft. by 2ft., was won by Gunner Brookman, with a score of 57. This is the third time this prize has been won by Gunner Brookman. The same Volunteer carried off the first prize in the second match (7*l.*), five shots each, at ranges of 200 and 300 yards, with a score of 33. The other winners were Gunner Hodges, Sergeant-Major Curtin, Sergeant Thomas, Gunner Bastine, Gunner Vyle, Lieutenant Stock, Sergeant Franklin, Corporal Pole, Gunner Hale, Gunner Fry, Gunner Greenslade, Corporal Counsell, Colonel Sayle, Gunner Wood, Gunner Strachan, Gunner T. Hodges, Gunner Melsom, Gunner Silvester, Gunner Easterbrook, Gunner Russell, Gunner Stewart, Gunner Gillard, Corporal Lilley, Gunner Hadden, Gunner Badman, Corporal Roberts, Gunner Woolfrey, Gunner A. G. Coleridge, and Gunner Hayes.

Sewing bee's [a gathering of ladies who would sell their sewing] were held at the Artillery Ground to raise funds.

Dinners and Dances were also organised by the unit, some members would donate funds or give a prize for a raffle, one such donation can be seen today in the officers mess which is the mahogany dining table, it was donated by a Gunner who was a partner in the furniture company of Phillips and Co?, Union St, Bristol which was at the bottom of Union street on the junction with Nelson St.

The members of the unit would entertain at dinners and dances, singing and Indian club swinging, many functions like the annual Christmas party were held in The Victoria Rooms and the Crown and Dove, Rupert street. most large public houses [pubs] would have a upstairs room which was hired for such functions.

SHOOTING.

BRISTOL ARTILLERY COMPETITION.

The skill-at-arms competition took place at Portishead on Saturday, the 5th inst., under the most favourable conditions, and in consequence some very good shooting was witnessed. There were seven batteries entered, and the competition, as usual, was a very keen one. The fire discipline, drill, and shooting were very good throughout, more especially the shooting of the winning battery, No. 1 company, who succeeded in winning the first-class badges for the second time in succession. The umpires were Colonel F. C. Ord, V.D., commanding the corps, and Captain W. H. Holdsworth Hunt, R.G.A. The Rev. Canon J. G. Alford, V.D., being timekeeper. The other officers present were Majors J. Worth, W. H. Wise, and W. C. Swayne, Captains T. Spencer, A. Ogilvy, P. L. Forte, S. R. Lysaght, and Surgeon-Captain R. G. P. Lansdown, M.D., Lieutenants C. W. Todd, R. L. Austin, J. E. Spencer, Surgeon-Lieutenant G. S. J. Boyd, and the Rev. E. M. Lance, M.A. Result:—

Battery Co. Com'nder.	Section Commanders.	Points for		
		Fire	Dis. Efft.	Tl. Pze.
1. Major W. C. Swayne. ...	C.S.M. F. Parnell and Sgt. S. H. Balkwill...	93	110	203...1st
2. Major W. H. Wise. ...	Lient. C. W. Todd and C.S.M. W. Barber...	97	40	137...2nd
4. Capt. P. L. Forte. ...	C.S.M. H. J. Warren & Sgt. W. J. Howett ...	91	40	131...3rd
6. Major J. Worth. ...	Sgt. H. T. Plum and Sgt. W. H. Birch ...	92	20	112... —
6. C.S.M. A. C. Paul. ...	Sgt. J. P. Jenkins and Sgt. H. Glasson.....	88	20	108... —
3. Captain A. Ogilvy. ...	Lieut. R. L. Austin & C.S.M. A. E. Anderson	84	20	104... —
5. C.S.M. F. Holton. ...	Sgt. W. E. Knighton and Sgt. G. Jeffery	90	10	100... —

Rifle Shooting was a favourite and enjoyable part of the Volunteers training.

16pr Competition 05- July-1902.

ref Sgt Warrens scrap book

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