THE VOLUNTEER ENCAMPMENT.

The concluding days of the volunteer encampment on Stinchcombe Hill were somewhat more favourable as far as the weather was concerned; and, taken on the whole, the volunteers may congratulate themselves upon enjoying a finer week than many less fortunate battalions have experienced. On Wednesday evening, great interest was taken in some well-fought struggles in connection with a "Tug of war," and as most of the companies had entered a team, the excitement was pretty general. At the close of the proceedings, it was found that the companies who had won their respective heats, and were consequently entitled to take part in the final heats on Thursday, were E (Cheltenham), G (Coleford), and I (Stow). Of these, Coleford was generally considered to have the best chance, and the ultimate result fully justified the confidence of their supporters. On Wednesday evening there was also an interesting shooting match between the F (Dursley) Company, and the remainder of the battalion. This was to some extent spoiled by the wet and cold weather, which prevented more than a mere handful of spectators attending, and considerably interfered with the success of the shooting. The battalion team was a scratch one, only including three of the ten men originally selected to shoot, and this, coupled with the fact that the Dursley men were shooting on their own range, and could therefore better judge of the elevation and windage, gave the latter such an advantage that they won easily by no fewer than 90 points; scoring 615 against 525 for the battalion. Lieut.-Col. Sir James Campbell, officiated as umpire; and, notwithstanding the driving rain, remained at the butts until the finish; but fortunately everything passed off smoothly, and there was no occasion for an appeal to him. On Tuesday and Wednesday, many of the volunteers tried their skill in shooting at the "running man"; but the distance was too long, and the pace at which the target travelled to great, to admit of very

brilliant practice. One of the few bull's-eyes made was secured by Lieut.-Col. Sir James Campbell, on Tuesday evening, and he divided the pool with Major E. H. B. Lysons, and Colour-Sergeant Smith, of B Company. Wednesday night was wet and uncomfortable, but Thursday proved a fine pleasant day and was much enjoyed by both volunteers and visitors. Three good drills were undertaken, and there was a marked improvement in the way in which the different movements were carried out, as compared with the work at the commencement of the week. After the last parade, there were some interesting drill competitions, for prizes subscribed by the officers. There were two competitions, one for squads of 16 men, under the command of a company sergeant; and the other open to squads of recruits, consisting of 10 men, also under the charge of one of the company sergeants. In the first class there were 8 entries, and in the second 6, most of the companies entering for both. The result was a considerable surprise, as it was generally anticipated that the consolidated town companies, with their greater facilities for drilling together all through the year, would have a great advantage as compared with scattered corps, such as Coleford and Campden, where the men can only be got together at comparatively small intervals. Major E. H. B. Lysons, who is adjutant of one of the Lanarkshire battalions, acted as judge, and the squads were all subjected by him to a searching test. In the competition for squads of 16, the R (Campden) Company won somewhat easily, Sergt. Ellis handling his men in a very efficient manner, and thoroughly deserving the first prize. The squad consisted of Sergt. H. Ellis, Corporals Trinder and Smith, Lance-corporal Averill, and Privates Harris, Harwood, Haydon, H. Tracy, W. Merriman, A. Biggerstaff, W. James, M. Freeman, R. Yates, H. Keely, W. Hartwell, J. Keely, and S. Aston. Colour-Sergeant Smith, and the B (Gloucester city) squad, took second prize. A squad of Coleford men, under Quarter-Master-Sergeant Briscoe, had entered in the competition, but as it was

fixed to come off nearly at the same time as the "tug of war," they decided not to compete, but reserve themselves for the latter. The recruits competition was a close one, the men acquitting themselves very well indeed. Ultimately the first prize was won by the G (Coleford) squad, under Sergt. W. J. Locke; Sergt. Chandler and the C (Stroud) Company taking second place. The winning squad consisted of Sergt. W. J. Locke, Privates B. H. Taylor, G. Ridler, — Payne, J. Matthews, G. James, — Millwater, H. W. Beach, W. Watkins, H. Watkins, and — Robinson. The Campden company came well to the front in this competition also, for they tied with the Coleford men for first prize; but as it was a condition that no man should compete in two squads, and Sergt. Ellis had not complied with this condition, they were disqualified, and the prize awarded to Coleford; but so well had the Campden squad acquitted themselves, that the committee determined to give them an extra prize. The position held by their respective teams, is very creditable to Colour-Sergeant Harris (Coleford), and McEnroe (Campden), who were both complimented on the improvement they have made in the men under their charge since they were appointed instructors to the Companies in February last. Directly the drill competition was over, the "tug of war" was commenced. Cheltenham drew a bye, so that the first struggle was between the Coleford and Stow companies. The latter won the toss for choice of ground, and naturally chose the best. The pull was a long and steady one, but gradually the Coleford men drew their opponents nearer and nearer the line, and finally won the pull. Changing ends, after a few minutes' rest, the struggle was renewed; for a moment the result was uncertain, for though Coleford gained ground at the start, two of their men slipped on their backs, and the rope went back a few inches, but it was only for a moment; quickly regaining the lost ground, they pulled the Stow team nearer and nearer the fatal line, until, amidst the mad cheering of their comrades, a final vigorous effort

settled the heat in their favour. Half-an-hour was allowed before they had to meet the Cheltenham for the final, but when the time came, the Cheltenham men were beaten so easily that they declined to pull a second time, reserving themselves for the struggle against Stow for second prize. This, Stow had not much difficulty in winning, for though the Cheltenham men pulled well, they were overmatched in weight and strength, and had to give way. The names of the Coleford team were as follows :—Lieut. Griffith, Sergeant-Instructor Harris, Sergt. Tyler, Privates H. Clark, P. Buchanan, J. Howells, B. Morris, G. L. Pearson, D. Smart, and G. Ridler. Directly they had won, Captain Plunkett, who had watched the pulls with much interest, regaled them with a plentiful supply of champagne; and it is needless to add that there was much rejoicing in the Coleford lines for the remainder of the evening. On Friday, in the presence of from 8,000 to 10,000 spectators, who completely hemmed in the parade ground, the review took place before Col. Bell, 37th Brigade, Bristol, the Inspecting Officer, and consisted of the following movements :—Marching past; manual and firing review exercise under Major Sir T. Crawley-Boevey, Bart; battalion drill under Colonel Collier and Major Sir T. Crawley-Boevey, Bart; the attack, under Major and Adjutant Lysons; company drill under Company Officers. After the drill the right half battalion was faced about, and Colonel Bell addressed the men in highly complimentary terms. He said he had been favoured with the pleasure of inspecting the Battalion five times, and was pleased with the efficiency and soldierly appearance of the men. It was a Battalion that the Colonel might well be proud of, for they were a healthy, smart body of men, such as ought to be able to bear well the fatigues and trials of a campaign. The manual and firing exercise was particularly well done, but the best troops in the world could not drill when hemmed in with such a crowd as then surrounded the volunteers. He was glad to find that some companies were increasing in strength,

and he hoped that the members of each corps would not only try to make themselves as efficient as possible, but would try to induce others to join. The Battalion then formed fours and marched to the camp. Colonel Bell desiring to test the efficiency of the regiment, in shooting at an object they would actually see on service, two figures were fixed on the side of the hill, representing a Zulu and a Prussian, at an unknown distance, of which each man had to judge for himself. Squads of ten men from each company were then told off, and each man supplied with five rounds of ammunition, and each squad had to complete the firing in five minutes. Colonel Bell expressed himself that the shooting was excellent, the best he had ever seen. Each squad fired independent of each other, and the result was ten per cent. of hits of the actual rounds fired, as against seven per cent. which was the best he had previously seen done under similar conditions. The men advanced in extended order, taking advantage of cover, as they would in an enemy's country. The following statistics will show that the provisioning of the volunteers for a week is no slight matter, and entails a vast amount of anxiety and responsibility upon the Quarter-Master (Sergt. Bailey), whose duties have been most efficiently performed, and whose courtesy we are glad to acknowledge. Of course this could not have been done if he had not been aided by the local contractors being punctual in the delivery of their goods.

The following statistics show the quantity of provisions supplied to the camp during the week:— 110 gallons of milk, 3068 lbs. of bread, 3068 lbs. of potatoes, 2200 lbs. of meat, 12 cwt. hams, $1\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. bacon, $3\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. butter, 1 cwt. cheese, $5\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. sugar, 1 cwt. salt, $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. biscuits, 106 lbs. tea, 206 lbs. coffee, 20 lbs. mustard, 16 lbs. pepper, 13 gallons vinegar, and 4 cwt. miscellaneous articles.

There were 648 rations served out to the men on Friday, and the strength of the battalion then in camp was 677.

VOLUNTEER PRIZE SHOOTING AT COLEFORD.

The annual prize shooting of the Coleford Company of Rifle Volunteers was continued on the Wimberry Slade range on Saturday last, and the competitors were again favoured with a fairly good day. The first competition was for the recruits' prizes, and of the 35 men who have joined the company this year 26 put in an appearance at the range. Starting at 9 o'clock at the 200 yards' range Private B. H. Taylor who put on 20 points, a very good score for a recruit to make from the knee. Private T. Beach made 18, but no one else could do more than 14. Easily maintaining his advantage at 400 yards, Private Taylor won the first prize with an aggregate of 38, twelve points in advance of the winning score last year. Private J. Matthews won the 2nd prize with 29 points; and Private J. Watkins, who shot badly at 200 yards, but put on the good score of 21 at 400, took the 3rd prize with 28—a total also secured by Bugler Wheatstone, who was fourth. The others were not very successful; but as most of them live several miles from the range, and have had no practice, they can hardly be expected to become good shots in one season. Surgeon Buchanan, a recruit of this year, who shoots very well indeed, was unable to be present in time to take part in this competition, but it will be noticed that he did better than any of the recruits in shooting for the tradesmen's prizes. The conditions were five shots each at 200 and 400 yards, military positions and Wimbledon targets, and the scores were as follows:—

Private	B. H. Taylor, £1 10s. ..	38
,,	J. Matthews, £1 5s.	29
,,	J. Watkins, £1	28
Buglar	Wheatstone, 15s.....	28
Private	T. Beach, 10s.....	23
,,	G. Ridler, 7s. 6d.	21
,,	H. James, 5s.	20
,,	E. Morse, 5s.	20
,,	Hartland, 4s.	17
,,	Baker, 4s.....	17
,,	Batten, 3s.	16
,,	H. W. Beach, 3s.	16
,,	Robinson, 2s.	15
,,	G. Morgan, 2s.	14
,,	Moss, 2s.	14
,,	R. Beach, 2s.	12
,,	Payne, 2s.	12
,,	W. Ridler, 1s. 6d.	12
,,	Millwater, 1s. 6d.	11
,,	G. W. James, 1s. 6d.....	11
,,	Barnett.....	8
,,	Ward.....	8
,,	H. Watkins.....	6
,,	J. Smith	4

The next competition which was for a series of prizes in kind, given by the tradesmen of the town and neighbourhood, is open to the whole company, and attracted upwards of 30 competitors. Sergeants Locke and Christie were handicapped two points, and Private T. Jones, Corporal Bradley, and Private H. Morse one point each, as having won the principal prizes on the preceding Saturday; but only in Corporal Bradley's case did the handicap change the position of the men on the prize list. The shooting at 200 yards was bad all round, not one good score being made. The most successful were Sergt. Gardiner and Privates Johnson, Briscoe, and T. Jones, who made 18 points each. At the next range, a considerable improvement was manifested, and Private R. Briscoe, with an inner and four bulls, only fell one point short of a "possible." Privates H. Morse and T. Jones each scored 21, and Sergeants Tyler and T. Morse 19 each. At 600 yards Q.-M.-S. Briscoe exhibited some of his old form, and put on 19, closely followed by his son, who, adding 18 to his aggregate at the other ranges, compiled the good total of 60, and won the first prize easily. Private H. Morse, after starting with a miss, put on 17, and took 2nd prize with 52; his brother, Sergt. Morse, following close up with 51. After the shooting, the prizes were distributed, the successful competitors selecting from the list in rotation. The conditions were 5 shots each at 200, 500 and 600 yards, at Wimbledon targets, military positions, and no sighting shots, and the scores were as under :—

Private R. Briscoe, ironmongery value £1 1s	60
Private H. Morse, 18 galls. of amber ale	52
Sergeant T. Morse, silk umbrella	51
Private T. Jones, lamp	50
Sergeant Tyler, groceries value 10s	47
Q.-M.-S. Briscoe, 9 galls of Burton	46
Private Pearson, butter dish	45
Corporal Smith, sack of potatoes	43
Surgeon Buchanan, cheese	42
Private Joynes, bottle of brandy	41
Private Gaudern, goods value 5s	39
Sergeant Locke, joint of meat	39
Sergeant Gardiner, photographs	36
Private Johnson, bottle of brandy	35
Private Matthews, couple of fowls	35
Private Taylor, 1 lb. of tea	35
Corporal Bradley, 5 cwt. of coal	35
Sergeant Christie, bottle of whiskey	33
Private J. Howells, bottle of sherry	25
Private J. Ridler, bottle of sherry	23
Private Robinson, bottle of whiskey	22
Private Payne, bottle of gin	22
Private Ebborn, Albert guard	19
Private E. Morse, bottle of rum	17
Private Beach, 1 lb. of tea	14
Private Batten, cake	13

THE VOLUNTEER CAMP.

[BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

In common with the remainder of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion of the Gloucestershire Regiment, the Coleford Company of Rifle Volunteers have been spending this week under canvas at Stinchcombe Hill, near Dursley. For eight years the Battalion assembled at Minchinhampton, and once they met at Prestbury, near Cheltenham; but last year they visited Stinchcombe, and the result was so satisfactory, that it has been selected again this season. The locality is a suitable one for a volunteer camp, and with fine weather the men could hardly desire a better place. On the top of a hill, commanding extensive views of the surrounding scenery, and with a considerable extent of land on which to carry out the necessary military movements, Stinchcombe leaves little to be desired by the volunteers.

The first representatives of the Coleford Company left Coleford Station by the 10.15 a.m. train on Saturday morning, under the command of Sergeant-Instructor Harris. Lieutenant Griffith had gone to camp on the previous Wednesday, to assist Major and Adjutant Lysons in making the necessary preliminary arrangements. Leaving Coleford during a heavy thunderstorm, the men soon reached Berkeley Road, where they had to wait an hour or two, until the rain had ceased. The march up to camp is a trying one, and the volunteers were glad to see their tents waiting for them when they got to the top. During the afternoon there was plenty to do in filling palliasses and pillows with straw, and getting out the supply of waterproof sheets and blankets for each tent; but few volunteers had reached camp by this time, but between six and seven o'clock a special train arrived at Dursley, carrying 200 or 300 men from Newnham, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Stroud Cirencester, and other places. Headed by the battalion band, this strong contingent marched into camp soon after seven o'clock, and for the rest of the evening the hill was a scene of busy volunteer life. Each man is allowed one palliass, one pillow, one waterproof sheet, two blankets, and a great coat from the Government stores, and a few camp requi-

sites, such as buckets, lanterns, and brooms are supplied by the Company; but anything else he needs he must find for himself. Some few take up a considerable quantity of baggage, but most of the men make as little as possible suffice to supply their wants. The weather on Saturday consisted of a succession of storms, but the evening and night were fairly fine; and Sunday morning was quite brilliant, so that the camp then looked at its best. The space occupied is boarded round, so as to keep it from the intrusion of the public, unless they choose to pay the charge for admission. At the upper side there is a stable for the field officers' chargers, a tobacconist's shop, the quarter-master's stores, and the publishing office of the *Camp Echo*, a daily newspaper which enjoys a considerable circulation during the week of the camp. These buildings are of wood, and of a sufficiently substantial character. The accommodation for the volunteers comprises about 120 bell tents, each of which may be made to accommodate eight men, a large mess tent in which the men have their meals, smaller ones for the officers' and sergeants' respectively, an orderly room, canteen, and various tents for other purposes.

On Sunday morning there was the usual church parade at Dursley Church. The battalion fell in on the parade ground at 8.30, and made a very creditable appearance, nearly 400 being present. Headed by the band they marched in beautifully fine weather down to Dursley, the unusual spectacle attracting a considerable crowd of spectators on the line of march. The church was reserved for the volunteers, none of the public being admitted until they had taken their places. The service was an appropriate one, and the Vicar preached a suitable sermon, which was listened to with much attention. Just as the men were falling in, after the service was over, a tremendous thunderstorm, with heavy hail and rain, broke over them. The Colonel gave the order to break off, and the men at once rushed to the shelter of the Market-house and other convenient places. The storm lasted but a quarter of an hour, and then the volunteers marched back to camp. This was all the duty of the day, and after roll-call at two o'clock the men

were allowed to [illegible] camp and go where they pleased. The remainder of the day proved fine, and the men availed themselves of the opportunity of visiting places of interest in the neighbourhood. On Monday morning the real work commenced, the first parade taking place at six o'clock, the second at ten, and the third at half-past two. As these lasted two and a half hours each, the men had plenty of work to do, and not much time for recreation until the evening, when boxing, football, and other sports were in progress, and some interesting shooting competitions were organised by the adjutant.

On Tuesday the programme was much the same as on Monday. Indeed, one day's work resembles another with little variation all through the week. A drill at six o'clock, under the adjutant, lasting till breakfast time at eight, and sometimes later; the commanding officer's parade at ten o'clock, which lasts sometimes till past the dinner hour at one o'clock; and a third in the afternoon at 2.30. The work is hard enough to satisfy the most enthusiastic volunteer, and it is somewhat surprising the men go through it with so much cheerfulness and alacrity. A little variety, interesting to the shooting men, has been introduced this year. A number of stuffed tunics and helmets, representing soldiers, have been posted on a hill near the camp, and at several parades ball cartridge has been served out, for the purpose of shooting at these. The distance—700 yards—is too far for the Snider rifle, and the shooting consequently depends somewhat on chance, but the practice so far has been fairly satisfactory. Sweepstakes also have been organised at the "running man," and at flower pots placed on the side of the hill at about 300 yards distance. The weather on Tuesday was fairly fine until the afternoon, when a heavy storm came on, just in time to prevent the afternoon parade. The men, however, were taken into the large mess tent, and practised the manual and firing exercise, under Sergeant-Major Duffy, who is indefatigable in his exertions on behalf of the battalion. While this was in progress, the Coleford company were glad to see visitors from home, in the persons of the Vicar and Curate, together with the members of the St. John's

Church, Choir, who had chosen Camp as the locality for their annual outing. In the evening, when the weather was finer, there was an interesting rifle match between teams of officers under Sir Jas. Campbell and sergeants selected by Sergeant Locke. The shooting was at the dummies on the hill side, and the sergeants won easily, "killing" six against two overthrown by the officers.

Wednesday was a beautifully fine day, and advantage was taken of this to get three good drills, in the course of which the improvement made during the week was very manifest. The inspection and review is fixed for to-day (Friday), when the battalion will be inspected by Col. Dickens, commanding the 28th regimental district.

CUP COMPETITION.—The volunteers had a pleasant day on Saturday last, on which to hold the fourth competition for their monthly challenge cup, but notwithstanding the favourable weather no one except the winner could get on a good score. At 200 yards Sergt. Locke started well with 23, Corporals H. Morse and Bradley 21 each. The best score at the next range was Sergeant Morse's 20, Sergts. Locke and Gardiner and Corporal Morse following with 19 each. At 600 yards several who had done well hitherto come to grief badly, and the only two respectable scores were those of Corporal Morse and Lance-Corporal Joynes, who made 16 and 15 respectively. The result proved that Corporal Morse, with a total of 56, was the winner for the second time this year, Lance-Corporal Joynes and Sergt. Locke taking second and third places with 52 each. The conditions ware 5 shots each at 200, 500, and 600 yards, Wimbledon targets, and military positions, and the scores were as follows:—

	200	500	600	Total
Corporal H. H. Morse	21	19	16	56
Lance-Corporal J. Joynes	20	17	15	52
Sergt. W. J. Locke	23	19	10	52
Sergt. Gardiner	20	19	10	49
Corporal Bradley	21	15	12	48
Sergt. Morse	19	20	8	47
Lieut.-Col. Sir J. Campbell	18	11	13	42
Sergt. Tyler	16	13	12	41
Surgeon Buchanan	18	4	6	28

THE VOLUNTEER CAMP.

[BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

The concluding days of the volunteer encampment on Stinchcombe Hill were full of interest and instruction for the men, and even though Friday's proceedings were spoiled by the rain, the camp was quite as successful as any of its predecessors.

Wednesday was one of the finest days of the week, and the drill on that day was very satisfactory. Many men who had been unable to come up before had now joined the camp, and consequently the number on parade, especially in the afternoon, was considerably in advance of what it had hitherto been. The improved manner in which the various movements were executed was very manifest, and abundantly testified to the value of these camps of instruction, in which men of a scattered battalion such as this can be brought together for a week's hard work. An interesting feature in the day's programme was the presentation to Sergt. Hawkes, of the Dursley Company, of the "Three Counties" badge, which he had won by making the highest score in the recent match between Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, and Herefordshire. Col. Collier (who as Col. of the winning battalion now holds the handsome challenge cup) made the presentation, and complimented Sergt. Hawkes on his steadiness and skill as a marksman. In the evening there was much shooting at the running man and at the flower pots on the hill side. A very closely-contested and exciting lawn tennis match took place in the afternoon at Rednock, the seat of Mr. Graham, in which four of the officers of the battalion—Major Sir Thomas Crawley Boevey, Capt. Gibbs, and Lieuts. Haygarth and Bengough—played against a team of the local gentry, selected by Mr. Graham. The volunteers eventually won by one set only, thus avenging their defeat of last year.

Thurs[illegible] pleasantest and most enjoyable day of the w[illegible]. The weather was beautifully fine, and there were [illegible]veral events of more than usual interest in the day's work. At the 6 o'clock parade there was a most instructive sham fight. Two companies under Capt. Baker were told off to represent a force supposed to have landed at Sharpness to attack the camp, and they moved off to a position out of sight of the remainder of the battalion, who were quite in the dark as to the method of attack to be adopted. After an interval the defending force was set in motion to endeavour to checkmate the movements of "the enemy." Scouts were ordered to the front with orders to advance carefully and keep a sharp look out; and two companies extended in attack formation in the rear of them, the remainder of the force forming the supports and reserve. After a time the Coleford Company were ordered to prolong the attacking line to the left, covering as much ground as they could do with safety. Lieut. Griffith with the right-half company moved far away to the left, and were repaid for their hard work by capturing a party of the enemy who were endeavouring to steal round the flank and surprise the camp. The left-half company, under the command of Lieut. Whitty (an officer of the Bristol Battalion, attached to the Coleford Company for the week of the camp), found themselves in front of the main body of the enemy, against whom they kept up a brisk fire. The attacking force having been beaten off the "cease fire" sounded and the men marched back to camp with appetites sharpened by the stiff morning's work. At the 10 o'clock parade several promotions were made in the Coleford Company: Privates Hubert Morse and Harry Clark were made corporals, and Privates Briscoe, Johnson, Joynes, and Ridler lance-corporals. After the parade there was a tug of war for a prize given by the officers. Four teams of ten men each entered—Cirencester, Cheltenham, Coleford, and Campden. The two last-named companies

were drawn first, and the Coleford team, a fine athletic body of men, under the captaincy of Corporal Harry Clark, pulled their opponents twice over the line with such ease and rapidity that the other two companies exercised a wise discretion and scratched at once, thus leaving Coleford the winners. The Campden men with much spirit challenged the winning company to pull another match in which the competitors should all be recruits. This was at once accepted and the tug came off after tea, the conditions being as before, the best two of three pulls. Campden won the first after a good struggle, but Coleford gained the second rather easily. The third pull was a splendidly contested one. At first Campden had the advantage and pulled their opponents within six inches of the line. There the rope hung for a long time, but at length inch by inch it came back to the Coleford side till a final vigorous effort made the Coleford recruits the winners amidst frantic cheers from their comrades, who were wound up to a great pitch of excitement. It was hoped the Gloucester Dock Company would have entered a team and so given the Foresters a chance to reverse the result of their meeting at Gloucester, but for some reason they did not appear. The Coleford men were naturally much elated at the success of their comrades, and Lieut. Griffith, Lieut. Whitty (who had become quite a Forester at heart by this time), and Surgeon Buchanan made substantial additions to the amount of the prize, which the men of the team spontaneously agreed to share with the recruits who had struggled so pluckily for the honour of the Company. The names of the Coleford men who pulled were as follows:—Company team: Corporal Harry Clark (captain), Sergt.-Instructor Harris, Sergt. Morse, Corporal H. Morse, Privates P. Gilbert, J. Howells, B. Morris, C. Morse, W. Ridler, and J. Watkins. Recruits: Privates Beach, J. Frowen, F. Gunter, G. Gunter, C. Jones, J. Morris, C. Morse, — Phillips, W. Smith, and — Vaughan. In the evening there was a shooting match between the Dursley Company and the remainder of the battalion —ten men aside. The battalion was not represented by its full strength, but so far as it went the match was a good one. At the 200 yards' range Dursley

led by 7 points; but at the next distance their opponents just managed to pull in front and went back to the last range with a majority of 2. It was now getting late and the light which had been failing for some time soon afterwards got so bad that it was arranged to postpone the finish of the match till the next day, the Dursley men being at the interval 12 points in front. On Friday the weather was so bad as to make shooting out of the question, and so the match ended in a draw.

The early parade on Friday morning was a good one, and the adjutant complimented the men on the manner in which they acquitted themselves, and expressed his confidence that they would pass a first-rate inspection. At about 7 o'clock, however, a few drops of rain began to fall, and though the weather-wise prophesied that "it was for heat" their prognostications were not correct, for gradually the clouds got darker and the rain more persistent till at length it developed in a pitiless downpour that never ceased for a minute during the day. This was a great disappointment, as Dursley and other places in the neighbourhood were thronged with visitors who had come to see the review. After waiting some time it was decided to hold the inspection in the large mess tent, and at the close the inspecting officer expressed to Col. Collier his satisfaction at the creditable appearance the battalion presented. It was still hoped the rain would cease and the review take place; but at half-past two the rain was falling as fast as ever, and it was decided to abandon the idea. The men amused themselves as best they could during the dreary afternoon; and in the evening a capital entertainment was given in the mess tent. Considering the adverse circumstances under which it took place this was quite a success, and was well attended by the officers and men. The Coleford Company contributed its share to the programme. Corporal Harry Clark recited "The Frenchman's after dinner speech," and another humourous selection in response to an encore. Corporal Hubert Morse sang "Uncle Jack," and Private B. H. Taylor gave "The Old Bridge" and "The jovial Foresters," all of which were well received.