



Presentation Of Watch To Sergeant Samuel Cox

Rifle Corps

On Saturday last, the members of this corps partook of a handsome cold collation, which had been very generously provided for them by Lieut. Fellowes, and Ensign Wilmot. The entertainment was given in the large room of the New Hall. Captain Ward presided, and after the removal of the cloth, various loyal and patriotic toasts were proposed in excellent speeches, and enthusiastically drunk. The most interesting part of the proceedings, however, was the presentation of a superb silver watch, by an eminent maker at Bath, of the value of twelve guineas, to their drill sergeant, for his meritorious conduct. The following inscription was engraved on the dome of the watch: "Presented to Sergeant Samuel Cox, of the 1st Battalion, 11th Regiment, by the Chippenham Rifle Volunteer Corps, as a mark of their appreciation of his zeal and intelligence as drill instructor, 1860." In the course of an eloquent and appropriate speech, Captain Ward expressed the pleasure he had in presenting the watch, in the name of the Corps, to Sergeant Cox, whose conduct and diligence during the time he had been at Chippenham, were highly praiseworthy. He hoped that both the watch and its owner would always be found to "go well." A watch was useless to any man if irregular in its movements, and a drill-sergeant was equally so if unpunctual in his engagements. But the Corps had found Sergeant Cox exceedingly attentive to his duties, and he hoped they would live many years in his esteem and remembrance. The worthy Sergeant, in accepting the watch, expressed his gratitude for the kindness he had received, and said that he should never look at the watch without being reminded of the honour he had had in drilling so clever and respectable a Rifle Corps as that which was formed in the town of Chippenham. Captain Ward then announced that it was his intention to give a silver prize medal to the best shot in the corps. The announcement was received with great applause. Before the company separated, several hearty cheers were given for the officers of the corps. The harmony and enthusiasm of the meeting were remarkably conspicuous throughout the whole of the evening.

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