

# FIRST SHROPSHIRE RIFLE VOLUNTEERS.

## PRESENTATION TO SERGEANT DEAVES.

A very gratifying recognition of personal merit was made, on Thursday evening, the 18th inst., by the members of the fourth squad of the First Shropshire Rifle Volunteers, who presented their sergeant, Mr. James Deaves, Pride-hill, with a short Enfield Rifle, as a mark of their esteem and respect. In order to obtain the necessary funds, a committee, consisting of Messrs. C. Philpott, J. R. Bagnall (corporal), H. Rowley, George E. Newton, and Robert E. Evans (secretary), was formed, and in a brief space of time they obtained the required sum wherewith to purchase a five-groove short Enfield Rifle, of the naval (or oldest Government) pattern, and patent breech, manufactured by Mr. F. T. Baker, 88, Fleet-street, London, armourer to the First Surrey Rifles. The presentation of this splendid weapon, to which is affixed a superiorly-made sword-bayonet, of elaborate workmanship, took place at the Fox Hotel, where Sergeant Deaves was invited to supper with the members of his squad and other friends. In the unavoidable absence of Henry Fenton, Esq., one of the corps, Private Robert Ward undertook the duties of chairman, the guest of the evening sitting on his right. Corporal Bagnall was the vice-chairman. Mr. Britton placed an excellent, well-cooked, and luxurious supper on the table; and when the cloth was drawn,

The CHAIRMAN proposed the customary loyal and patriotic toasts, which were received with that enthusiasm which befits volunteers.

The CHAIRMAN then said: Hitherto my duties as chairman have been light enough for anyone to have fulfilled; but in approaching the toast of the evening I feel how incompetent I am to do full justice to it, and fear that you will indeed feel the unavoidable absence of our friend, Mr. Fenton, who should have presided. The toast to which I refer is the health of our worthy friend, Sergeant James Deaves. (Enthusiastic cheering.) He is so well known to you all that I need not dilate on his many good qualities. You all know his obliging manner, his strict attention to drill, and other military duties subject to one in his capacity, and his persevering aim to bring those who have the pleasure to serve with him to a perfect state of efficiency in their drill. (Applause.) I will now read to you Mr. Fenton's letter of apology for his absence:

Dogpole, October 18th, 8 p.m.

Mr. Fenton: As I told you this morning, I am so over-

be very good salmon if been a gradual decrease measure, to the erection caused great impediment was of opinion that to the spawn than the fish also was the "Jack-perch" Those fish—taken legally under the system adopted which the fisheries was the chief other words, the dredger river for the purpose of walks, and the like.

the description referred purpose with spawn injured the spawning bed and Holyhead road, he gravel thrown upon it. there was also much disease which attacked And, again, for some had been infected with

The Chief Commissioner insects?

Mr. Hughes: I have have been procured. ance something like a dozen, or more, of fishermen, however, you more about that. observed: And there direct attention, and time. The "fencing" earlier than necessary be the result of that in time for all rivers—th He should recommen as far as he could judary, or thereabouts. in the month of December spawning time was from Christmas. He conspoaching until they missioners might not the local Act affecting