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News of the Service.

NOTE.—Our readers are respectfully requested to contribute to this department all items of Military News affecting their own corps, districts or friends, coming under their notice. Without we are assisted in this way we cannot make this department as complete as we would desire. Remember that all the doings of every corps are of general interest throughout the entire militia force. You can mail a large package of manuscript, so long as not enclosed in an envelope, for one cent. At any rate, forward copies of your local papers with all references to your corps and your comrades. Address,

EDITOR, CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE,
P.O. Box, 2179, Montreal, Que.

Halifax, N. S.

Owing to the inclemency of the weather the lecture, which was to be delivered on the 2nd inst. by Major Oxley, H.G.A., had to be postponed until the 9th inst.

The several companies of the H.G.A. have received the government grant of eight days' pay, and when the company dues, etc., were deducted from it there was not much of it left, hardly enough to drink the Finance Minister's health with.

The H.G.A. have had a small building erected for them in rear of the gun shed. The officers are fitting it up as an orderly room, armory, etc. This accommodation was much needed.

The Royal Berkshire regiment has arrived from the West Indies, and the King's regiment has departed for the same station. In less than twenty-four hours after arrival the King's made the usual transfers of squarepushers (sweethearts) to the Berks, the new soldiers, and the old squarepushers are to be seen billing and cooing together as if they knew each other from infancy. Of course there were a few crocodile tears shed at the dockyard gate as the King's marched through to embark, but the slaveys, who sheds the crocodiles like their more staid sisters, usually console themselves by "catching on" to another Tommy that same evening. The first thing they will have to do is to become used to the change in the color of the facings, the Berks being a royal regiment wear blue facings.

I am sending you some newspaper cuttings dealing with the history, arrival, departure, etc., of the regiments. They might be of some interest to your readers of Upper Canada where both of these

regiments distinguished themselves.

[Echo, December 4th.]

The 1st battalion Royal Berkshire regiment is the old 49th, ever a sacred number—a seven of sevens—to Canadians, particularly of the province they did so much to save. The 49th was Brock's regiment; it was while leading a detachment of the 49th, and its militia supports, at Queenstown that he fell; their idol he had long been, now he was become their hero; and the hero of Upper Canada forever. As the war progressed most of the activity of both regiments, the 8th King's and the 49th Foot, were centered in Upper Canada. Both had given detachments to the cordon of defence that guarded the frontier from 45 degrees which touches the St. Lawrence at St. Regis; both had done bravely there, the 49th Foot, with Lieut.-Col. McMillan, Glengarries and militia. At the successful assault upon the American fort opposite the 8th King's, with Glengarries and militia, under Major Macdonnell, at Ogdensburg, where that officer's despatch says: "I turned his right with the detachment of the King's regiment," and mentions particularly two of his officers, Captain Eustice and Lieutenant Ridge.

On that memorable day, the 13th October, 1812, four companies of the 49th, with Lieutenant-Colonel Evans, of the 8th (King's) as brigade major, occupied Fort George, some of the 8th being in garrison at Fort Mississauga. A detachment of the 49th, under Capt. Dennis, garrisoned the heights at Queenston, supported by a body of the York volunteers, and, after the death of their beloved commander, held the village until relief, under Major-General Sheaffe, an officer of the 49th, arrived, and accomplished that glorious victory. In June, 1813, the battle of Stony Creek was fought, under Colonel Harvey, the 49th under Major Plendereath, and the 8th under Major Ogilvie, doing splendid work. During the same month Fitzgibbon, with his forty men, some volunteers from other regiments, but mostly 49th men, made that renowned capture of nearly 600 of the enemy at Beaver Dam, which the courage of a woman—Laura Secord—led up to. The 8th men, however, part of DeHaven's force at Twelve-Mile Creek, came up to receive the prisoners taken. The 49th, whose headquarters were at Kingston after the death of Brock, formed part of the gallant Morrison's force at Chrysler's farm, where the Canadian Government has lately placed a shaft to record the victory. When Fort George was taken by the enemy, fifty men of the 49th were left behind to destroy the magazines, all of whom were made prisoners. In Colonel Bishop's attack on Black Rock some of the 8th King's, the 41st and 49th, with a few militia, formed the victorious force. And two days be-

fore six men of the 49th, under Ensign Winder, with 34 militia, under Col. T. Clark, had surprised Fort Schlosser, destroying the enemy's boats and carrying off the stores.

At the battle of Lundy's Lane the 49th were not present, having been ordered previously to the lower provinces, but the 8th King's were there, and shared in the fourteen mile return march under a burning July sun, when Drummond, having arrived with reinforcements for Riall, who had been unable to hold his ground of the morning, ordered the retreating forces to return. Arriving on the ground half an hour before sunset, the battle of Lundy's Lane was fought in the semi-darkness of a July evening, and both bones and buttocks of the gallant men of the 8th who helped to win the brilliant victory have been found on the field within a year or two. With loving reverence, holy rites and patriotic honors, the Lundy's Line Historical Society committed the few mortal remains to consecrated ground in Lundy's Lane cemetery, where, with other similar records of the past, the coffin lies underneath the handsome column our government has lately placed there to the memory of our brave defenders.

But this letter is already too long, I fear, and though more may be said on the subject, I hope it will not fail of its end, that of reminding Canadians of the claims upon us both the outgoing and incoming regiments at Halifax have, and inciting us to show their present representatives such honors as we may while they are with us.—"S. A. C." in Mail and Empire.

[Echo, December 6th.]

The King's regiment embarked on the troopship Pavonia this morning, leaving the barracks about 10 o'clock. There were many friends on hand to bid good-bye to men of the King's, and the gathering included numbers of the weaker sex, many of whose eyes were dimmed with tears. The band played the usual farewell airs and the trooper sailed at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

A number of time expired men of the R. E., R. A. and King's regiment went home on the steamship Labrador. The artillerymen were played to the steamer by the R. A. fife and drum corps.

Crack Shots.

It has been frequently asserted by cynics, who sneer at the art of rifle shooting as exemplified at Bisley, that your crack shot is absolutely valueless in actual warfare, that he finds moving men very different from stationary targets, and that all sharp shooting in action is mere haphazard guess-work, in which the duffer is just as likely to do execution as the expert. There may be some truth in that view of marksmanship, but that