

KINGSTON.

"A" Battery, the Kingston branch of the Regiment of Canadian Artillery, obtained its majority a few days ago and the coming of age was celebrated by a ball given by the officers in their pleasant mess rooms; the music was furnished by the Battery string orchestra, an excellent organization, composed of eight members of the regimental band; about 300 guests were present and a very pleasant time was spent until an early hour in the morning, there were several guests from a distance. The decorations of the ball room and ante rooms were superb consisting of military weapons, trophies, etc.; more than a passing notice must be made of a handsome centre piece formed of moss and chrysanthemums, which was a gem of the florist's art.

At least one of the "non-coms" of the battery celebrated the above event in a different way altogether from that of the officers. This was in a very pleasant event which occurred at St. George's Cathedral on Tuesday, 15th Nov., when Staff-Sergt. J. Williams was united in marriage to Elizabeth Allen of Bedford, Ont., by the Rev. Buxton Smith; Master Gunner Maher assisted the groom while his daughter did a like duty for the bride. After the ceremony the happy couple and their friends left for their future home on William Street, where an inviting spread was laid. After doing justice to the good things provided, the party gave "Jack" and his bride a hearty toast and then accompanied them to the train, upon which the bridal couple departed for two weeks tour in the west. I hope that it was the pleasantest furlough the genial Staff-Sergt. has had up to this date.

Since my last communication it is rumored that three more cadets have been expelled from the Royal Military College, for one year, for a breach of discipline, said breach consisting of not giving evidence against the unfortunate young fellow of whom I wrote before. It seems to me that something is wrong somewhere, in that the sentences imposed are so much heavier than in former years. Four cadets have been sent away this fall (if the rumour is true—which I have every reason to believe is the case) one permanently, the other three being rusticated for the one year. It is only eight or nine years ago that a young man from Toronto attending the College as a cadet, committed an offence not only against the College discipline, but the society of the place as well. He was simply sent away for six months, after which time he returned and graduated.

Lieut.-Colonel Van Straubenzie, D.A.G., of military districts, 3 and 4, inspected the armories and equipment of the 14th Princess of Wales Own Rifles the middle of last month; he expressed himself as much pleased with the clearly condition of every article saying they reflected great credit on the caretaker, Q. M. S. Watts, of the 14th. The D. A. G. was, however, slightly dissatisfied with the amount of clothing, etc., still out, and said some means would have to be taken to compel the men to return them to stores.

The cadets who attended the football match at Montreal all unite in saying the treatment they received from the Britanias left nothing to be desired having had a royal time at the banquet tendered them in the evening by the Britannia Club. Capt. Huskisson, R.E., had them under his wing while on their trip.

What might have been a fatal accident happened at Fort Frederick last week. Lieutenant Burstall, of "A" Battery, had a squad of men handling a 64 pr. gun; he dismounted to give instructions, leaving his horse in charge of Driver Mason; the animal was very lively and kicked Mason in the face, and for a time it was thought he would not recover. A bad cut was left in his forehead and three teeth were knocked out. He is, I am glad to say, now out of danger.

The horse "King Tom," a favourite with the late Major Short, who used to ride him while performing sword feats and other sports, arrived in this city from Quebec, and will in future be used by Mrs. Short, widow of the gallant major.

The N. C. O.'s class of the 14th is progressing finely under the able tuition of Sgt.-Major Morgans, of the College. They are exercised in Ontario Hall three nights each week in physical drill, infantry sword, manual and firing, and the sword bayonet exercises; the date has not been fixed yet for their entertainment; it will probably occur some time this month. Veterinary Surgeon Massie presented the drivers of the Battery with a trick goat; the antics of the animal cause great amusement. Sergt. W. A. Porter, of the 14th Battalion, has resigned from the Sergeants' Mess to go to Toronto, where he has secured a very lucrative position. We hope to hear from him as a member of some of Toronto's crack corps.

Mrs. Blair, sister of Major C. B. Mayne, R.M.C., sails for England after New Year's.

The 14th Battalion Officers' Club was organized in the elegantly furnished apartments over King's drug store two weeks ago. Lieut.-Col. Smith was elected president, with Capt. O. R. Dupuis secretary, and Paymaster Sinclair treasurer. A formal opening will occur shortly. After the meeting the officers adjourned to the meeting of the American Canoe Association, which was in session here last month, and of which Lieut.-Col. Cotton is commodore.

At nine o'clock a complimentary smoking concert was given by the Royal Military College Canoe Club in honour of the visiting delegates. There were between fifty and sixty gentlemen present, who thoroughly enjoyed themselves. A good programme was submitted, consisting of songs and speeches. Amongst those who took part were: Major T. W. Shannon, Capt. Bruce Carruthers, Capt. Kent and a contingent from the R.M.C. with banjos and guitars.

Death is the wind up of all things. It is my sad duty to close this letter with recording the death of Jason Parks, late of North Fredericksburgh. He has lived for the past four years at Berkely, California, with his grandson, Herbert C. Parks, at whose home he passed peacefully away a few weeks ago. He was a son of Captain Parks, one of the U. E. Loyalists that landed at Adolphustown. Deceased was a member of Capt. Casey's troop during the rebellion of '37-'38. Irvine Parks, a son of the above, has the discharge of his grandfather, Captain N. Parks, from Her Majesty's Provincial Regiment of King's Rangers, dated 1783, he being at that time but 14 years of age. The discharge also states that he is entitled to his portion of land allotted to him.

STIENSALES.

DEATH OF BANDMASTER CAREY.

On the night of Tuesday, 29th Nov., just as "Lights out" was sounded in the Tete du Pont barracks, Mr. William Carey, master of the 14th P. W. O. Rifles band, joined the army of the dead, the cause of his death being congestion of the brain. He was about 68 years of age. The deceased came from a family of musicians, his father and grandfather both conducting regimental bands in England, the former being band-master of the King's Dragoon Guards. He travelled over much of the world with his father and the regiments they were attached to. In 1837 he was at Chambly, Que., and in 1843 joined the Royal Horse Guards, and as one of the Household Cavalry played before Her Majesty. He was through the Crimean war, played for the Sultan of Turkey at the memorable parade of the forces, and also at Lord Raglan's funeral, his father and brother leading bands as well as himself. At the expiration of the war he came, with his regiment, to this city, and after service at the various military stations, returned to England. He soon came out to Canada again, however, to assume the position of band-master in the Royal Canadian Rifles, in which he was so highly esteemed that his name, coupled with that of the band, became a household word for musical excellence. On the disbandment of the Canadian Rifles he went to Aldershot to accept the band-mastership of the Fourth Battalion Rifle brigade (the Prince Consort's Own), but left them on their departure for India in 1873. He returned to Canada soon afterward as band-master of the Grand Trunk Railway Brigade at Toronto, which position he retained until the disbandment. After a number of years, during which he acted as band-master of the Queen's Own Rifles, he came to King-