

**The 21st Essex Fusiliers.**

On the occasion of the opening of the Great Southwestern Fair by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, at Essex Centre, on the 10th Oct. last, the 21st Essex Fusiliers furnished a guard of honour under the command of Capt. Ley, of No. 2 Company. Lieuts. Johnston and Bartlett, of No. 3 and 5 Co's, acted as subalterns. The average height of the men was about six feet, and it is claimed with pride that no finer guard was ever turned out in Ontario. Col. Wilkinson, the officers of the guard, members of the Dominion Parliament and Local Legislature and many other gentlemen lunched with His Honour after the formal opening of the "Fair," which was a great success. Col. Wilkinson a few days after received the following letter:

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, TORONTO, Oct. 12th, 1888.

SIR,—His Honour the Lieutenant Governor desires me to express to you his thanks for your goodwill in supplying a guard of honour on the occasion of his visit to the exhibition at Essex Centre, and to express his pleasure at their smart and soldierlike appearance. And His Honour further begs you will convey his sentiments to the officers and men composing the guard.

(Signed) FRED C. LAW, Commander R. N.,  
Official Secretary.

The 19th annual rifle match of No. 2 Company was held at Leamington in September last. An excellent prize list was furnished by the citizens. The meeting was well attended and some good scores were made, although the day was anything but favourable to good shooting. There was a strong wind from left to right, and it was raining a good deal of the time. The annual dinner of this company took place at the Schoolhouse in the evening. W. C. Coulson, mayor of the town, presided. Col. Wilkinson, many citizens and friends were present. After the usual toasts and speeches, Mr. Balfour, M.P.P., presented the successful competitors with their prizes. The whole affair was a success, and Capt. Ley, who is certainly a tireless worker, deserves great credit for the way everything was arranged and carried out.

The annual matches of No. 3 Company will take place at Essex Centre on Thanksgiving Day, and those of No. 1 and 5 Co's at Windsor at the same date. In each case excellent prize lists have been secured. The annual match of No. 4 Co. will take place at Amherstburg soon.

Dr. Brien, M.P. for South Essex, has presented a silver cup worth \$50 to be competed for by the several companies of the 21st Fusiliers, on the following conditions: Teams of 5 officers and men, three ranges, and not less than 5 shots at each range, Ontario regulations. The cup to be won three times consecutively before becoming the property of any. This competition may not be arranged until next season.

Private Dixon, of No. 3 Company, attended the matches of the Western Rifle Association of London in September last and took the first prize in the 200 yards match, and stood 4th and 6th in two other matches. The 21st Fusiliers intend to organize a thorough Rifle Association, and take a more prominent part in rifle shooting next season.

The splendid band of the regiment are giving a series of popular concerts in the drill shed at Windsor. The people of Essex are proud of the 21st Fusiliers.

HOTSPUR.

**Presentation to Col. Oswald.**

The Victoria Rifles Armoury was filled on Friday evening 11th inst., with a large and fashionable company, including many of the officers of the local corps, and a goodly number of the fairer sex, the occasion being the presentation to Lt.-Col. Oswald, the late popular commander of the Montreal Brigade of Garrison Artillery, by the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates, of a portrait of himself, the work of Mr. Robert Harris, R. C. A. Lieut.-Col. Oswald having lately retired from the command of the regiment, this means was taken of showing the regard and affection entertained for him by the officers and men. Among those gathered on the stage, surrounding the guest of the evening and Mrs. Oswald, were observed: Lieut.-Col. Houghton, D.A.G., Lt.-Col. Mattice, B.M., Mrs. Mattice, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Turnbull, Lt.-Col. Lyman, Lt.-Col. Baker, Lt.-Col. Hughes, Mr. J. J. Curran, Q.C., M.P., Rev. James Barclay, chaplain, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Hubbard, the Misses Cole, Miss Roddick and a great number of others.

The brigade having marched from their quarters into the hall, were drawn up in square facing the stage, the officers standing forward. Major Cole read letters, regretting their inability to attend, from Major-General Middleton, Lt.-Col. Irwin, Lt.-Col. Van Straubenzee, Lt.-Col. Macdonald, and others.

Lt.-Col. Turnbull expressed the regret with which the regiment had heard of Lt.-Col. Oswald's resignation. He, the speaker, felt the responsibility devolving upon him as the successor of such an officer as no light weight, but he knew that officers and men would stand shoulder to shoulder to keep up the efficiency of the corps.

Rev. James Barclay having been called upon to speak, stated that it afforded him great pleasure to have an opportunity of testifying his

respect for Col. Oswald as a man, and esteem for him as a soldier. He was sure that every man in the regiment recognized the untiring energy and generous devotion which characterized their late Colonel, in everything that tended to the efficiency of his regiment. The speaker then proceeded to eulogise the services of Col. Oswald in England, the North-West, and to the Artillery Association generally. Speaking for the regiment he felt sure he echoed their sentiments when he said they would ever remember the hearty kindness of their late Colonel and his esteemed wife in procuring full provision for the men. It gave him great pleasure to testify to this, and he was sure that the portrait that they were about to unveil would serve as a reminder of the appreciation and esteem in which the Colonel was held by the regiment. (Applause.)

Lieut.-Col. Houghton having followed with a few well chosen remarks, Mr. J. J. Curran, M.P., in an eloquent speech, said that the Colonel, by his example in the past, had done much for the noble cause of Canadian patriotism. He was speaking from his own knowledge when he said that the services of Lieut.-Colonel Oswald were fully appreciated at headquarters, and he had frequently heard the Hon. Minister of Militia express such. Of all the regiments that responded to the call of duty during the recent troubles, none reflected greater credit on the country, or showed greater zeal, alacrity and patriotism than the Montreal Garrison Artillery. This presentation to Col. Oswald was an incentive to other officers to follow in his footsteps, and his example was one worthy of following.

Col. Baker followed with a few remarks, after which Mrs. Oswald, amid the cheers of the soldiers and others, drew aside a curtain revealing the life-like portrait of her husband.

Col. Oswald, who was received with loud cheers, thanked the brigade for their kindness to him on this as on other occasions. He had heard it said that it was a thankless task to serve in the militia, but he had not found it so. The artist had made the best of a bad subject, and he noticed that the uniform looked very well. He hoped some day to see his little son wearing the same uniform that he wore now. It was twenty years since he had joined the brigade at the request of Lieut.-Col. Mattice, and he felt recompensed at having secured the friendship of officers and men. He closed by wishing prosperity and long life to all the members of the dear old brigade.

This concluded the proceedings and the brigade marched back to their drill shed to the invigorating strains of the band and were there dismissed.—*Star*

**A Reunion of Inkerman Veterans.**

I had hoped this week to have continued "The Schools of Military Instruction," but the space must be devoted to the celebration by the Army and Navy Veterans on the 5th inst. of the 34th anniversary of the battle of Inkerman.

The dinner was held at the Albion Hotel. I have no intention of going into all the toasts, for their name was legion, but rather of showing the names, services and medals of some of those present. After the toast of His Excellency the Governor General had been proposed, Alderman Drayton, formerly a captain in the 16th Foot, read a letter announcing the pleasure it gave His Excellency to become a member of the society.

The "Army, Navy and Militia" was very well received, Mr. Banks responding for the army, Mr. George Tyler for the navy, Major J. H. Mead for the active militia, and Alderman John Baxter, of "the 2nd Royal West Toronto Invisibles," for the sedentary.

"The memory of our fallen comrades" was drunk in silence. "Our victorious comrades at Inkerman" was the toast of the evening, and was responded to by a number of those who took part in "the soldier's battle." John Smith, 72nd Highlanders; Thos. Tyler, Thos. Shaw and P. Burleigh, 30th Foot, who told of how he dodged Russian shells, and how Lord Raglan wouldn't let them fight; J. McMillan, 47th Foot; Chas. Ellingsworth, 93rd Highlanders, who gave a very interesting account of the battle; Alexander Kay, late 13th Light Infantry, although he had not served in the Crimea.

Of those I had the pleasure of meeting at this dinner, all had at one time been in the rank and file. I am prompted by a question asked, "Who are the rank and file?"—to quote from Capt. Butler, who says: "Who are the rank and file? They are the poor wild birds, whose country has cast them off, and who repay her by offering their lives for her glory; the men who take the shilling, who drink, who drill, who march to music, who fill the graveyards in Asia; the men who stand sentry at the gates of world famous fortresses, who are old when the elder brothers are still young, who are bronzed and burned by fierce suns, who sail over seas packed in great masses, who watch at night over lonely magazines, who shout 'who comes there?' through the darkness, who dig in trenches, who are blown to pieces in mines, who are torn by shot and shell, who have carried the flag of England