

forty-five men. There are a great many new, and consequently raw, recruits in this battalion, and therefore it has had a heavy difficulty to contend against, but nevertheless the progress already made is marvellous. The men take to their duties as they should do, and think more of them than do several of our city companies to whom the fifty cents is the great "god." In skirmishing this corps acquitted themselves very well and with great steadiness, and in platoon exercises they did very fairly, altogether I must compliment Lieut. Col. Barwis on the efficient and forward state of his regiment.

At Frelighsburg, the 52nd Battalion mustered 5 companies with fair numbers. They too go into their drill with determination and spirit. They have a valuable adjunct in the person of their Adjutant; he is thoroughly up to his duties, and energetic and earnest in his tasks. He evidently overworks himself, but he has the interest of the battalion at heart. The camp is situated on the top of the hill in rear of Frelighsburg, and everything looked as well as could be.

Montreal might be plague-smitten, the number of deaths from sunstroke, owing to the excessive heat, occurring every day. On Tuesday last eight deaths were chronicled; strong men stricken down by the piercing rays of the sun. This heated term is acknowledged to be the severest felt here for over twenty years, and it has many mourners lamenting over friends who have succumbed to it. At the time I am penning you these few lines, the thermometer at my elbow indicates in a cool shade 98 degrees. It is impossible to keep cool, and an insult to tell a man "its a warm day, sir!" We cannot contemplate the large list of premature deaths, from sunstroke, without mingling with those who mourn, our deepest sympathies in their bereavments and afflictions. I trust we shall soon have a long looked for rain, it is much needed, and cannot come too soon or in too great a quantity.

The Hochelagas completed their drill yesterday and turned out well, over one hundred rank and file. I say "turned out," I should rather say "turned in." It was the intention to drill on the Champ de Mars, but Col. Isaacson is not only "human," but has the interests and good of his men always to heart, and rightly would not subject them to drill in the stifling heat, under which it would be impossible not to culminate in most serious results, and so the greater part of the drill was gone through under the friendly and acceptable shelter of their armory. The men looked and behaved well, and their drill seems to have much improved them. Col. Isaacson has had a hard task, and he has been well seconded in his efforts by his officers, and they may congratulate themselves on the efficiency the regiment has attained. The men seem, however, to be deficient in clothing, a representation to the proper quarter

would doubtless settle that. They were put through the light infantry drill, with manual and platoon exercises, and did very well.

The drill shed is still a "complication"; nay, worse, it has become a harbinger nest of the vilest characters in the city, who habitually take up their quarters there, and make the night hideous with their orgies. Where is the lurch? The whole trouble can be traced to our municipal system. No one is responsible, the blame is shifted from one to another, and we wait in vain for a solution of the problem. The builders are clamorous for their money, the council meets in solemn conclave, nothing is done, the matter is referred and referred back, no person knows anything, and every person knows everything. The public requirements and interests are totally ignored, and thus the farce goes on. When will reason and common sense guide these "savants"?

At the rifle match at Point St. Charles on Saturday, for the vase presented by Col. Wilson, to No. 3 Battery, G. T. R. Artillery, Sergeant H. Symmes was the winner by the following record—

					200 YARDS.
4	3	3	3	2 15
					400 YARDS.
2	3	0	3	3 11
					600 YARDS.
3	0	4	4	3 14

The men turned out in goodly numbers, and notwithstanding the heat and dazzling effect of the sun made good shooting.

After the match Mr. Meyer commenced experiments with his gun, a full description of which was given in a former number of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW. Mr. Meyer proved the capacity of his gun to sweep a lateral range of 90 degrees with a shower of bullets at the rate of 160 per minute. The gun is sufficiently heavy to resist any recoil, and possesses a mechanical precision in firing against a fixed target. The value and efficiency of this murderous weapon of defence were fully admitted by several eminent engineers and scientific officers present, and I trust Mr. Meyer may be successful in obtaining what he is in much need of, viz., funds to enable him to patent his invention in England, and bring it under the notice of the War authorities there.

The following gentlemen passed a highly creditable examination before Colonel Peacocke, Commandant Military School: S. Lambert, Montreal; C. F. Slack, Missisquoi County; J. H. Welsh, Montreal; George Wheeler, do; W. Taylor, do; E. Cunningham, do; Joseph Barr, Havelock, P. Q.

The Royals propose holding a picnic at Beauharnois at an early date. Their picnics are generally well conducted affairs, and excite an unusual amount of joviality and amusement.

A Grand Trunk volunteer, writing to the *Witness*, says, a deduction is made from the small annual pay of the brigade for the support of the G. T. Band, which he says gets

more support in various ways, such as dramatic entertainments, moonlight excursions, and such like, that would support half a dozen such bands. He also complains of a similar deduction for caps.

A committee is now canvassing our city for subscriptions to the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association. The first meeting is to be held here about the middle of September, when a great muster is expected from all parts of the Dominion.

A match in Lacrosse is spoken of here between a United States twelve and the Montreal Club. They will compete for medals. Our American cousins may be sure of a good reception, and may look out for their laurels when pitted against such players as Montreal can count.

Joseph Beaudry, brother of the ex-Mayor, died last Monday, and on Wednesday, H. B. Smith, an extensive crockery merchant.

Your correspondent is quite prostrated with the melting heat, and is living now chiefly on ice creams and iced soda water, which has the effect of clouding ideas somewhat, and which will account for his rather short letter this week. With this apology, &c., &c.

FROM HAMILTON.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Yesterday afternoon (14th inst.) at three o'clock the Government thermometer at the Central School stood at one hundred and six in the shade! This is the highest we have gone as yet, sufficient I think to show the satisfaction of all that 'ho "Ambitious City" is the hottest place in the country.

The 13th have given up drill until October, when, it is to be hoped, it will be somewhat cooler. On Thursday evening last they paraded for the purpose of being paid for their annual sixteen days drill. The pay for the extra six days drill not having arrived, the Battalion is ordered to parade on the first Thursday in August, by which time it is to be hoped the money will be here. After drill, last Thursday, the Colonel, in speaking to the men, said that he had requested the Captains commanding Companies to hand in the names of those men who had failed to put in an appearance during the late drills as it was his intention, in justice to those men who had attended regularly, to have the defaulters "put through." Your correspondent has not, as yet, seen in the Police reports or heard of any action having been taken. Perhaps there were no delinquents.

The return match between the 29th Regt. and the 13th Battalion was to have come off on the 17th inst., but just before the match the 29th men found that they would be unable to fire upon that day, so the 13th fired their score and the 29th are to fire some day this week. The highest individual score made on the side of the Volunteers was 45 points—made by Ensigns Baker and Little