

need. The help sent down by the Government will be of great service on the Gulf Shore. It would have been better if the whole of the flour and cornmeal had been sent to that part, as the inhabitants in the townships of Douglas, Gaspe South, York and Gaspe North could have done without it, there being labour to be had for persons wishing to avail themselves of it."

#### VOLUNTEER SUPPER AT COLUMBUS.

A large number of the men of Company No. 8 celebrated the expiration of the five years which have elapsed since its formation by a supper at Mr. Hill's Hotel, Columbus, on Friday evening last. The chair was filled by Mr. J. E. Farewell, the acting captain, and the vice chair by acting Lieutenant Joseph Scurrah. The supper was exceedingly creditable to Mr. Hill, and ample justice was done to the good things provided by him. After the customary toasts from the chair, several volunteer toasts were given and the speakers acquitted themselves creditably both in their proposal and in responding to them. Mr. William Smith responded to "the Army and Navy," and Mr. John McKenzie for the "Agricultural Interests," proposed by the chairman. Sergeant E. Welburn proposed "The Municipal Council of East Whitby," and referred to her liberality in allowing the Company a Rifle Range, and for assistance in preparing it, as well as for aid in completing the Drill Shed. Robert Smith, Esq., Deputy Reeve, responded. He remarked that the members of the Council felt that in affording needed facilities to the Volunteers they had but done what was plainly their duty; to have asked the men who were spending so much time in qualifying themselves to enable them better to defend their homes, to construct Rifle Ranges at their own expense, would have been unjust, and the Council had felt that in giving a judicious aid they had given expression to and carried out the views of the people of the township they represented. He expressed his pleasure at meeting so respectable a company, and expressed his hope and belief that while the unfortunate necessity existed for the Volunteers, the township of East Whitby would always be represented in the force by as fine looking and patriotic fellows as it had sent to the front whenever the occasion required. The Colonel, Majors, and Adjutant of the 34th battalion having been proposed, were received with the greatest enthusiasm. R. Smith, Esq., responded for them, and assured the meeting that when money was needed for Volunteer purposes the Colonel used his influence to the utmost to obtain it, as in the case of the £1,000 grant to the Volunteers, and also in the Drill Shed grants.

A fitting tribute was paid to the dead of Lime Ridge, the sentiment having been introduced by Mr. William Smith; and also to the memory of Captain Prentice, proposed by Mr. Alexander McKenzie.

The chairman gave "the Non Commissioned Officers of the Company." Received warmly and responded to well by Sergeants G. Scurrah, E. Welburn, C. Cryderman, and Corporals H. Adams, A. Porteous and J. Collins. In proposing this toast, the commander of the Company paid a high tribute to their steadiness and intelligence, and the happy manner in which they discharged their many unpleasant duties without giving offence.

Mr. John Howder proposed "The Ladies." The old quotation, "The heart feels most

when the lips move not," was exemplified by the very poor responses to this toast. "The Bachelors" were, however, ably represented by Lieutenant Scurrah and Robert Smith, Esq. The health of Lieutenant Scurrah was proposed, and most warmly received; the proposer referred to the fact that he was the only one of the original officers now connected with the Company. In replying, that officer assured the company that his connection with the Company had been a most happy one; that the Company had always been able to make a creditable appearance, and was excelled only by those possessing superior advantages; he should regret very much if any of the members should take advantage of their five years' service to give place to others. The health of the commander of the Company was next proposed. In replying to it, Mr. Farewell spoke of the attention and steadiness of the men. It was well shown by the fact that, though there had been a lengthy round of toasts, there was not a man present who was not in a fit condition to be reviewed by Her Majesty. Objections were constantly made to volunteering on account of the tendency to cause immoderate drinking, and it was pleasing to notice that so much self-respect had been shown by the company, that nothing had been said which could offend the most fastidious. The example of temperance set by that Christian soldier, Havelock, was well worthy of imitation; especially should it be followed by Volunteers.

The Oshawa Volunteers were proposed by R. Smith, Esq., and responded to in a happy manner by Mr. E. S. Decker.

Several songs were sung during the evening by Messrs. Porteus, Angus, Scurrah, Greenwell, Decker and others. The whole company were well pleased with the entertainment provided by "mine host" Hill.—*Oshawa Indicator.*

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

ANOTHER revolution has broken out in Mexico, headed by one Valdez. He has organized a force which is marching upon the capital. Two American citizens have recently been murdered by guerillas in Mexico.

The population of China is known to be immense, but if they go on for a few years as at present, it will certainly be considerably diminished. In the last battle between the Imperialists and the rebels, (which compared with some of the fights which have preceded it was a mere skirmish), 80,000 men are reported to have been left dead on the field.

King Victor Emmanuel has betrothed his son, Prince Humbert, to Princess Margaret of Savoy, eldest daughter of the late Duke of Genoa, and the young man's blood cousin. Prince Humbert is twenty-five years of age, and has affianced "sweet seventeen." The Prince was before engaged to be married to Mathilda, daughter of the Archduke Albert of Austria, who was burned to death by her clothes taking fire from a lucifer match carelessly let fall while sealing a letter.

The American papers are complaining that the Military bands in New York and other garrison towns, are never permitted to perform for the benefit of the public, but are merely maintained for the gratification of the officers and their friends. The military au-

thorities of the United States regular army, unlike those of our own army, never permit the public to have any opportunity of listening to the music of the regimental bands, and although the commandant in New York has often been requested to allow the band to play in the Central Park, the request has always been somewhat churlishly refused.

When Mr. Thornton, the newly appointed British Ambassador to Washington, was first introduced to Mr. Seward, the latter immediately commenced trying to "pump" him respecting the Alabama claims. Mr. Thornton, however, was not disposed to be trapped into any sort of an admission on the subject, and the correspondent of a New York Journal says that Mr. Thornton, "stroking his whiskers, with true British hauteur, replied: 'I do not desire, sir, to have any trivial conversation with the Secretary of State in regard to the so called Alabama claims, or any kindred subject. Whatever remarks I might make on such matters, I prefer to reduce to writing and submit at the proper time.'" Mr. Seward was terribly disgusted.

Damascus is the oldest city in the world; Tyre and Sidon have crumbled on the shore, Balbec is in ruins, Palmyra lies burned in the sands of the desert; Ninevah and Babylon have disappeared from the shores of the Tigris and Euphrates. Damascus remains what it was before the days of Abraham—a centre of trade and travel, an isle of verdure in a desert, "a predestined capital" with martial and sacred associations extending beyond thirty centuries. It was near Damascus that Saul of Tarsus saw the light of Heaven, above the brightness of the sun; the street which is called Strait, in which it is said "he prayeth," still runs through the city; the caravan comes and goes as it did one thousand years ago; there is still the sheik, the ass, and the waterwheel; the merchants of the Euphrates and the Mediterranean still occupy these "with the multitude of their wares." The city which Mahomet surveyed from a neighbouring height, and was afraid to enter, "because it is given to men to have but one paradise, and for his part he was resolved not to have it in this world," it is to this day what Julian called "the eyes of the East," as it was in the time of Isaiah, "the Head Syria." From Damascus came our damson, our blue plums, and the delicious apricot of Portugal, called damasco; damask rose introduced into England, in the time of Henry VII; and the Damascus blade, so famous the world over for its keen edge and elasticity, the secret of the manufacture of which was lost when Tamerlane carried off the artist to Persia; and that beautiful art of inlaying wood and steel with gold—a kind of mosaic engraving and sculpture united, called damasking, with which boxes and bureaus, and swords and guns are ornamented.

#### FOR SALE.

AN OFFICER'S VOLUNTEER LIGHT INFANTRY UNIFORM, in good order.

Address, **UNIFORM,**  
Volunteer Review Office,  
Feb. 12th, 1868. Ottawa.

#### BEE HIVES.

J. H. THOMAS'S FIRST PRIZE MOVEABLE J. COMB BEE HIVES for sale. Apply to the undersigned agent for circular, JOHN HENDERSON, New Edinburgh, Jan. 21st, 1868. 6-6mo.