

GOSSIP OF THE MILITIA.

Montreal's farewell compliment to Col. Van Straubenzie.

The Batoche Anniversary celebrated at Toronto—Garrison Common Range re-opened—Hamilton Field Battery preparing for camp—The Eightth Royals out Skirmishing—Sports at the Victoria Rifles Armoury—The pay of Canada's Militia—How it contrasts with other countries.

LIEUT. Chas. F. Ward of No. 5 Co. of the 35th Batt., has a most remarkable military record for one so young. When he was only nine years of age he was allowed to join the 35th Batt. as bugler, on account of his wonderful musical abilities, and attended the Military School in Toronto, to perfect himself. He occupied this position as bugler, and the pet of the regiment until 1885, when he was seized with a patriotic fervor, and with a good deal of trouble obtained permission to go to the North-West with the York and Simcoe Batt. This was a good move for him, as he received a few days after leaving headquarters the appointment of bugle major. This young gentleman was probably the youngest volunteer at the front—being only fourteen—and beyond doubt the youngest bugle major in the service. He retained this rank until quite recently, when he received the appointment of 2nd Lieut. in the Company above referred to. We consider this a most remarkable record when taken into consideration that he is just barely 18 years old now, and worthy of imitation by many thousands of young Canadians. He will attend the Military School in Toronto in July, and qualify himself.—*Ex.*

Toronto.

THREE years ago Saturday last, says the *Empire* of Monday 14th inst., Riel and his rebel forces were defeated by the Canadian Militia under General Middleton at Batoche and the Saskatchewan rebellion was virtually brought to an end. The corps that took part in the fight regard it as the most important event in their history. The Royal Grenadiers of this city were in the charge and justly feel proud of the part they took. Saturday afternoon a committee appointed by the Sergeants' Mess, proceeded to Mount Pleasant cemetery and decorated the graves of Lieut. Fitch and Ptes. Moore and Hughes, of the regiment, who fell during the battle. A flower bed was cut between the two graves of the latter and planted by the committee with choice flowers.

In the evening Major Dawson entertained the officers at dinner at his residence, College street.

At the same time the sergeants of the regiment celebrated the event by holding a supper at the Hob hotel, Colborne street. The tables were tastefully decorated and a most sumptuous bill of fare provided by host Bingham. The chair was occupied by the mess president, Staff-Sergt. Charles W. Harding, and the vice chair was ably filled by Band-sergt. McNeill. The visitors Sergt.-Major Grainger, G.G.B.G.; Sergt.-Major Spence, T.F.B.; Sergt.-Major Woodman, T.G.A.; Sergt. Stuart, Montreal Field Battery; Staff-Sergt. Symons, 35th Infantry; Mr. W. Alexander and others. Letters of regret were read from Mayor Clarke, Lieut.-Col. Grasett, Major Dawson, Capt. Manley and other officers. After the bill of fare had been done justice to, the health of the Queen was drunk, Mr. Alexander leading the singing. Songs, recitations and speeches were given by Messrs. Alexander, Spence, Grainger and Stewart. One of the features of the evening was the fine cornet solos by Band-Sergt. McNeill, as also his drum solo, which fairly brought down the house. A very interesting ceremony was the presentation by the president of a solid gold "Regiment Pin" to Staff-Sergt. Alfred Curran, the retiring president. It was accompanied by an address beautifully executed by the artistic pen of Staff-Sergt. Fred. Kitchener, orderly-room clerk. Staff-Sergt. Curran, who was fairly taken by surprise at this mark of esteem from his brother sergeants, replied to the address in a short speech.

THE GRENADIERS' TRIP.

Major Dawson has completed arrangements for the visit of the Royal Grenadiers to Guelph. The regiment will leave here on Wednesday evening, May 23rd, at 8 o'clock, by the Grand Trunk, and will arrive at Guelph about 10 o'clock. They will immediately go into camp at the exhibition park. The city of Guelph will provide three meals on the 24th. Returning from Guelph the regiment will leave about 10 p.m. by special train, which will leave them at the city hall station. A team from the Grenadiers will compete for a handsome silver cup in a tug of war contest. The members of the regiment will also be allowed to compete for prizes amounting to about \$300 in various sports. About twenty-five members of the Governor-General's Body Guard have made application and have received permission to accompany the Grenadiers.

Assistant Surgeon Ed. King has an excellent ambulance corps under his command, but he is working at a very great disadvantage, the present regulations not allowing him enough men.

QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES.

The Queen's Own Rifles assembled at the drillshed, 9th instant, at 8 o'clock, mustering to the number of 454. The University Company was unable to be present owing to the examinations. Lieut.-Col. Allan was in command. The whole staff was also present. Headed by their band the battalion marched out to the Moss park, where they were put through general battalion drill under Col. Allan. On returning to the drillshed, the commanding officer congratulated the men on the excellent manner in which they had acquitted themselves, after which the following order was issued:—Promotion: to be corporal in "D" Company, Private J. C. Whittaker, *vice* Moggridge, promoted. Rifle practice commenced on Saturday, 12th inst., at 1 p.m., at the Garrison Creek commons, and will be continued each succeeding Saturday, and on Wednesday, 30th inst., at 5 o'clock a.m.

FIRING RENEWED AT THE BUTTS.

Rifle practice began on Saturday at the Garrison Common. Says the *World*: The ground is in splendid condition and the targets well managed. The firing parties

consisted of the Q.O.R., under Major Delamere, Capt. Knifton and Musk. Instr. Lewis; the Grenadiers under Capt. Manley and Musk. Instr. Mitchell, and the Toronto Rifle Association under President Cartwright. There was a good muster. Two men were stationed on the shore to warn boats of danger, but their services were not needed. The butts have been raised, and with care there should not be any fear of accident. Stringent rules have been issued by the authorities. Among others the orderly officers of the week from each corps must be on the ground while the firing is going on. The musketry instructor must also be present to teach recruits the method of using the rifle.

CANADA'S MILITARY PAY LIST CONTRASTED.

For the sake of showing you how different militia pay is from that of the Imperial service I have tabulated the whole, and have added the pay of the United States. The pay of officers serving in India is considerably higher than that at home. Why I mention this is because in British Columbia living is from 25 to 33 per cent. higher than it is in Ontario and Quebec. However, we are told that C Battery has the advantage of living in a delightful climate and enjoying the hospitality of the people of British Columbia, and with that they must be content, unless they choose to desert, which false economy will probably lead to.

RANK. Staff.	CANADA.	ENGLAND.	UNITED STATES.
Major General.....	\$4,000	\$5,222	\$7,500
Colonel on Staff.....	2,600	3,547	3,500
D. A. G.....	1,200	2,660	3,000
Brigade Major.....	1,200	1,802	
A. D. C., Captain.....	1,000	1,595	2,200
<i>Permanent Corps.</i>			
<i>Cavalry.</i>			
Captain.....	\$1,095	\$1,182	\$2,000
Having brevet rank.....	1,277	1,335	2,200
Lieutenant.....	730	890	1,600
After 4 years' service.....	912		1,760
<i>Artillery.</i>			
Captain.....	\$1,095	\$1,182	\$2,000
Having brevet rank.....	1,277	1,335	2,200
Lieutenant.....	730	606	1,600
After 4 or 7 years' service.....	912	697	1,760
<i>Infantry.</i>			
Captain.....	\$1,075	\$1,029	\$1,800
Having brevet rank.....	1,277	1,870	1,980
Lieutenant.....	730	578	1,500
After 4 or 7 years' service.....	912	668	1,650

RANK. Other than Permanent Corps.	CANADA.	ENGLAND.	UNITED STATES.
<i>Cavalry.</i>			
Lt. Colonel.....	\$4.86	\$5.23	\$8.32
Major.....	3.90	3.65	6.94
Captain.....	2.82	3.17	5.55
Having brevet rank.....			6.11
Lieutenant.....	1.58	1.87	4.44
Second Lieut.....	1.28	1.62	4.16
Adjutant (Lieut.).....	2.44	2.72	5.00
<i>Infantry.</i>			
Lt. Colonel.....	4.86	4.38	8.33
Major.....	3.90	3.31	6.94
Captain.....	2.82	2.82	5.00
Having brevet rank.....		3.31	5.50
Lieutenant.....	1.58	1.58	4.16
After 7 or 5 years' service.....		1.82	4.56
Second Lieut.....	1.28	1.28	3.88
Adjutant (Lieut.).....	2.44	2.44	5.00
<i>Artillery.</i>			
Lt. Colonel.....	4.86	4.38	8.33
Major.....	3.90	3.90	6.94
Captain.....	2.82	2.82	5.55
Having brevet rank.....		3.31	6.11
Lieutenant.....	1.58	1.66	4.44
After 7 or 8 years' service.....		1.90	4.88
Second Lieut.....	1.28	1.36	4.16
Adjutant (Lieut.).....	2.44	2.51	5.00

	CANADA.	ENGLAND		UNITED STATES.
		ordinary pay.	working pay.	
<i>Engineers—</i>				
Lieut.-Colonel.....	\$4.86	\$4.38	\$3.41	\$8.33
Major.....	3.90	3.90	2.19	6.94
Captain.....	2.82	2.82	1.46	5.55
Having brevet rank.....		3.31	1.46	6.11
Lieutenant.....	1.58	1.66	.97	4.44
Second Lieutenant.....	1.28	1.36	.49	4.16
Adjutant-Lieutenant.....	2.44	.61		5.00

* In addition to both pays.

Allowances, such as table money, forage and stabling, servants, lodging, fuel and light, furniture command money, mess, treasury chest, etc., I have omitted, and have given the daily regimental pay of officers, excepting staff and permanent corps, in which cases the annual amount is mentioned.

In the Imperial service cavalry and infantry majors receive an increase of 49 and 59 cents respectively after two years' service; the senior major also gets 24 cents additional pay. Lieutenants in the infantry, artillery and engineers are credited with six cents increased daily pay after seven years' service as such, and a lieutenant in the engineers, after passing the School of Military Engineering, receives 49 cents daily increase in his working pay. Our permanent corps officers receive, until promoted in their corps, an additional 50 cents per diem after four years' service in their respective grades. In the American service there is an increase *by law* every five years for officers.