

Regimental and Other News.

The Montreal *Witness* says: Capt. Bell, of No. 5 Company, Victoria Rifles, has been presented with a silver tea service by his Company on the occasion of his approaching marriage."

A party of the Sergeants of the Victoria Rifles will spend Thanksgiving Day at Hartford, Conn., by invitation of friends in the Connecticut National Guard, who visited Montreal a few weeks ago.

The social sensation in Halifax is the news from London that Major General Sir John Ross, commander of the British forces in Canada residing in Halifax, has been granted a divorce from his wife, Lady Mary. The causes leading to the separation have long been a source of scandal in home and colonial military circles. Sir John will soon marry the beautiful young daughter of a magistrate at Pictou, N.S.

An old soldier, Hugh Fynlason, who served his full 21 years in Her Majesty's 93rd Highlanders, and was discharged with the rank of Sergeant, was buried at Leamington, Ont., with military honours on the 26th Oct. Capt. A. Ley and No. 2 Co., 21st Essex Fusiliers, furnished the escort and firing party. Col. Wilkinson, commander of the regiment, was present in uniform. The deceased was a member of the Presbyterian church—a good old man—and had resided for a number of years in Leamington.

The Fifteenth Battalion.

The annual inspection of the 15th Battalion Argyle Light Infantry took place in the afternoon of Friday, 25th inst., the inspecting officer being the Deputy Adjutant General, Lt.-Col. Van Straubenzee, who was assisted by Brigade Major Lewis; Major Strange, District Paymaster, was also on hand. The local papers agree in describing it as the best inspection ever passed by the corps. A careful scrutiny of the clothing and accoutrements having been made in the drill hall, the battalion was marched through the town to the Hospital lot, where a number of battalion movements were performed under direction of Lt.-Col. S. S. Lazier and Major T. C. Lazier. Capt. Ponton, of No. 1 Company, was then requested to put his men through company drill, which he did. They also performed the bayonet exercise, at the completion of which they were complimented by the Deputy Adjutant General and cheered by their comrades. The ground not permitting skirmishing or similar manoeuvres, the battalion was then re-formed and marched back to the drill shed. Before dismissing the men Lt.-Col. Lazier said that he had been instructed by the inspecting officer to convey to the men the pleasure he had experienced in inspecting them. They were to be complimented upon the efficiency of their drill. The drill shed being now completed, and rooms provided for officers and men, he hoped the various companies would still continue drill, thus keeping in practice. Everything was being done to make the battalion second to none in the Dominion, and he was certain it would be. At the conclusion, he was loudly cheered. The men were then dismissed.

The battalion was officered as follows: Lieut.-Col. S. S. Lazier, Majors L. H. Henderson and T. C. Lazier, Surgeon Eakins, Asst. Surgeon Cook, Paymaster J. L. Biggar, Quartermaster W. W. Pope, Adjutant, R. E. Lazier; Chaplain, Rev. M. W. MacLean. The officers and the strength of each company were: No. 1—Capt. W. N. Ponton, 2nd Lieut. Ketcheson—42 men; No. 2—Capt. J. F. Wills—41 men; No. 3—Capt. Merrill, 2nd Lieut. C. Lazier—42 men; No. 4—Capt. Donald—41 men; No. 5—Capt. A. Robertson, 2nd Lieut. S. Vermilyea—39 men; No. 6—Capt. J. E. Halliwell, 2nd Lieut. A. Overell—42 men. There are 5 Staff Sergeants, 19 officers, and 252 rank and file, making a total strength of 276. Col. Lazier and Major L. H. Henderson are the only two officers now in the battalion who served at Prescott in 1866.

A musical feature of the inspection was that the buglers played the "Turkish Zouaves March," as played by the Zouaves in the Crimean war—the drums and fifes picking it up from them and playing "British Grenadiers." In the evening the inspecting officers were entertained to an oyster supper at the St. George's hotel by the officers of the battalion.

Toronto.

Around the festive board in a hall at No. 210½ Queen st. east last Friday night, there gathered a number of weather-beaten veterans of the memorable battle of Balaclava, fought on the 25th of October, 1854, who, after retiring from her Majesty's service, have found a home in Canada. The gathering was augmented by some retired men who went through the last Egyptian campaign, several members of "C" company, a few civilians and a considerable number of ladies. In the absence of Col. Wm. Allan, of the 93rd Highlanders, the chair was taken by Mr. James Gibb, formerly of the Rosshire Buffs, and the vice-chair by Capt. Kemp, of the Argyleshire Highlanders. After a substantial repast the cloth was lifted and the audience, inspired by the tune Alma and Highland dance music, by Piper Munro, formed sets for a reel. After dancing had been engaged in for some time, the meeting was brought to order for the toasting. The chairman intimated several letters of apol-

ogy among which was one from Mayor Clarke, who, after stating that he had made a previous engagement, wrote: "It would have been a real pleasure to me to assist the veterans to celebrate such a memorable occasion." An aged veteran wrote in a shaky hand anonymously, "Here is my quota, I am a poor old man on the verge of 80." The chairman proposed the toasts "The Queen," "The Prince and Princess of Wales and other members of the royal family," which were honoured with great gusto. Then came "The Governor-General and Lieutenant-Governor," "The army, navy and reserve forces," "The Mayor and corporation," "The press," and "The ladies," all of which were honoured with enthusiasm. Partners were then chosen for a Highland schottische, and with dancing, song and sentiment a most enjoyable night was spent. The piper's excellent playing reminded the heroes of the thrilling events of the Crimea campaign and the hardships of the trenches before Sebastopol. Among those present who had fought at the battle of Balaclava were: Adam Eddington, Scots Greys; P. Hunter, Enniskillen Dragoons; John Hutton, 72nd Highlanders; John McEwan, 42nd Black Watch; John Mackenzie, Scots Fusiliers. Of the Tel-el-Kebir heroes there were present: Angus Mackenzie, Scots Fusiliers; D. McKay, King's Own Scottish Borderers; Sergt.-Major Cummings, late 93rd Highlanders and Wm. D. Ross, Royal Horse Guards—the late Captain Burnaby's orderly during the Egyptian war.

THE GRENADIERS.

The Grenadiers paraded at the drill shed on Thursday last, about 350 strong, commanded by Major Harrison. They had a march out, and then returned to Wellington street and performed a few battalion movements before returning to the drill shed, where the orders were read and notice was given of the presentation of prizes. In the regimental orders it was stated that the promotion to the rank of corporal of Corp. T. Taylor, "B" company, was confirmed, and would date from September 10th, 1887, on account of duties performed by Taylor during the North-West campaign. The promotion to the rank of corporal of Corp. E. Stephens, "D" company, was also confirmed, and will date from May 1st, 1888.

I an-dwa-wa (Thunderbolt), chief of the Ojibways, his counsellor, Masa ke-wa-we-tung (Earthquake) and their interpreter, Mr. James Settee, under the guidance of Mr. Barlow Cumberland drove out with the regiment. They were much pleased with the soldiers, and more especially with the band.

A church parade is being arranged for either the 3rd or the 16th of November.

On Friday evening, the non-coms. listened to a lecture, by Sergt. Maj. Cox, on the new attack formation.

Pioneer Sergt. Hardinge is seriously ill, and it is feared that he will not be able to return to duty for some time.

On Saturday the Grenadiers paraded at the Garrison Common for the purpose of practising the attack drill. There was not a very large parade, because of the early hour set for it. Lt.-Col. Otter briefly explained the formation and its advantages, after which they went through the work once for practice. Blank ammunition was then served out and they advanced to the attack amid the "din and smoke of war," but without its spice. The enemy, for some reason or other, had not taken up their position, so the conquest was easy.

One of the features of the day was the "rushing" of Capt. Kemp's half-company. Another was the small boy; he was everywhere at once.

In the charge, it was "even money" whether Sergt. Small or Capt. Kemp would be first into the enemy's works.

Capt. Harston again had No. 4 Co. He said that it seemed like old times.

As they marched through the New Fort, on the return to the drill shed, the Grens. were heartily cheered by "C" Co.

Outside the fort, the Quartermaster, Capt. Tassie, and Quartermaster Sergt. Dale, had drawn up in line of battle a quantity of crackers, cheese, beer and pop, which the Grens. attacked and disposed of in less time than they did the other enemy.

THE QUEEN'S OWN.

On Wednesday evening, 23rd inst., the Queen's Own, under Major Sankey, paraded about 400 strong. They marched through several thoroughfares and back to Wellington street, where they practised marching past, on the asphalt pavement. While the regiment was out, Corpl. Cockburn drilled the recruits in the manual exercise. After the return, the regiment was formed into a hollow square and the cups and team prizes won at the recent rifle matches were presented.

Col.-Sergt. Crooks is to be congratulated on having won the handsome trophy presented by the R. Y. Ellis Company.

A church parade of the regiment has been ordered for Nov. 3rd.

Major Ruttan, of the 90th Winnipeg Rifles, marched out with the Queen's Own.

New ammunition pouches are soon to be served out to the regiment.

The Pioneers were busy getting into new quarters.