

feated, there was no retreat. Twice during the contest of 1812, American armies were surrendered to a handful of Canadian Militia, aided by a few regular soldiers. 'Viator,' and gentlemen who pay flying visits to this country, know little of what it is in reality. Viewed from the promenade deck of a steamboat, or through the window of a first-class railway carriage, an invasion of its fair western plains would look in imagination like a pleasure excursion; but woe betide the unlucky wight who should attempt to get guns, commissariat, and all the thousand and one appliances of an army through its clayey roads, impassable swamps and difficult gullies. The "clever, practicable" Americans tried that game once, and, as they say themselves, "got tired of the contract and gave it up." Nor will they, even by the incitements of 'Viator,' 'O,' and other gentlemen of the same school, try a similar game in a hurry. In fact, Canada is a country easily defended. With ordinary preparations, the Americans could make no movement at any point without exposing some vital position to assault, and the conquest of Canada will be effected by them when another descent from the shores of Normandy subjects England to a second conquest. Montreal is undoubtedly an open town; but modern artillery practice makes it a doubtful question as to how far it would be either wise or convenient to go in the direction of making it another Antwerp. The question before the people of Great Britain is the maintenance of her naval supremacy. So long as that is safe, Canada can be made secure by her own resources, but she cannot be defended by any army manœuvring in the field which Britain can spare. A simple Militia organization, such as recommended in the pages of THE REVIEW, will enable her to place such a force in position as would make a successful invasion impossible, and on that force the safety of the country depends.

I am, sir, your obd't serv't,

SUBALTERN.

Battalion Correspondence.

[We shall be obliged if an officer in each Battalion will give us a report, as briefly as consistent with the facts, of any events of interest which take place in his corps, and beg to tender our thanks for favors received.]

FROM TORONTO.

Military matters in the Queen city of the West are most decidedly looking up. Both the Queen's Own and 10th Royals are performing regularly their two drills a week, and muster strongly on every occasion. You will, of course, have a full account in your useful journal of the grand field-day on Monday last, so that I need not take up space with a description of it here. Suffice it to say, that our Volunteers on the occasion presented a favorable appearance alongside of the regulars, and both battalions being in full strength added materially to the success of the review. The Queen's Own have now a well equipped pioneer squad attached to the regiment—the implements (spades, axes and picks) alone costing \$160. It is altogether likely, however, that the Government will assume this cost as the necessity for such a squad, should trouble arise, is quite apparent. The Queen's Own is the only battalion in the country having them, but certainly no regiment is complete without its "pioneer squad." The indefatigable and popular commanding-officer of the Queen's Own deserves well at the hands of the Government for his successful efforts in maintaining the regiment in its highly efficient state.

The 10th Royals are shortly, I believe, to be served out with new overcoats, the old ones being totally unfit for service.

After the 10th Royals returned to their drill shed from the review on Monday the members of No. 7 company, Capt. Hethrington, met in their army and through their Captain presented Paymaster-Sergeant William Curtis, attached to No. 7 Company, with a splendid sword, belt, &c., on behalf of the officers and non-commissioned officers of the company, as a token of regard for his long and efficient services in the battalion. When presenting the sword the captain read and presented a suitable address to Sergeant Curtis, who delivered an appropriate reply. After the presentation the members proceeded to the "Montreal House," King street west, where they spent an exceedingly pleasant time.

The Toronto Field Battery (Capt. McLean) have commenced their annual eight-days drill.

FROM QUEBEC.

PRESENTATION.—On the evening of the third instant, the Quebec Victoria Rifles, taking the opportunity of the departure of their Lieutenant, Frederick Fraser, Esq., for the Lower Provinces, presented him with a very handsome gold watch and chain as a mark of their affection and regard, and the following address:—To Lieut. F. W. Fraser, Quebec Victoria Rifle Company: We, the undersigned officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Quebec Victoria Rifle Company, have, with regret, heard of your intended departure from this city. In our several relations with you as a private, non-commissioned officer and officer; since the organization of the company, six years ago, we have always found you a good comrade, a good soldier and a warm friend, and we trust that your absence from Quebec may be but temporary, and that next autumn you will again be found in our ranks. As a token of our friendship and best wishes for your future welfare, we beg your acceptance of the accompanying present, with the assurance that, should you in the future, again meet with any of your old comrades, you will find in them true and sincere friends. The Lieutenant replied as follows:—To the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Quebec Victoria Rifle Company: I regret very much that business arrangements require my departure from Quebec. During the time I have been a volunteer with this company, I have had occasion to congratulate myself upon the good feeling which has, and I hope, always will exist among the members. Your kind allusion to myself during my past service with you is another proof of this good feeling. Next fall I hope to be back in Quebec, in which case you will again find me at my post; but, in the meantime should you unfortunately be called into the field, I will not be long in joining you. I thank you most sincerely for your kind and handsome present, which I will always prize, the more so in consequence of the good wishes which accompany it, and I can only add that I warmly reciprocate your expressions of good will.

FROM HAMILTON.

13TH BATTALION.—This battalion paraded twice during last week—on Tuesday evening, May 6th, and on Thursday afternoon, May 9th. The usual routine drill took place on Tuesday night, and on Thursday the battalion marched to the review ground, in rear of the Crystal Palace, where they were put through skirmishing drill and a few other movements. The following appointments have been made:—No. 4 Company.—To be Color-Sergeant: Sergt. Wm. Shuttleworth; To be Sergeants: Corporals R. Campbell and J. Greenhill; To be Corporals: Lance-Corporals H. Mowat and W. Acheson;

To be Lance-Corporals: Privates J. Campbell, T. Reid and W. Emsley. The appointment of Sergt. Shuttleworth as Color-Sergeant of No. 4 is a good one, and gives generally satisfaction. Sergeant S. is a promising non-com., and has for years been a constant attender at drill. After parade the stripes in No. 4 were christened with copious libations.

A grand concert in aid of the Band Fund of the 13th came off on Friday evening. The Cecilia Glee Club delighted the audience with their usual fine selection of chorus, and the band played several pieces with very good effect. A handsome sum no doubt was realized for the fund, as the Hall was well filled.

The annual meeting of the 7th Military District Rifle Association was held at the Royal Hotel, Hamilton, on Monday, May 12th. Lt.-Col. McGiverin, the President of the Association, took the chair. Among the gentlemen present were the following:—Capt. McGhie, Dr. Goodman, and Capt. Parnell, of St. Catherine's, Capt. Ritchie, Lieuts. Moore and Young, and Quartermaster Mason of the 13th Battalion and others. The following gentlemen were elected as office-bearers for the coming year:—President: Lt.-Col. G. K. Chisholm, of Oakville, Vice-Presidents: same as last year, with the addition of Lt.-Cols. McDonald and Skinner; Secretary and Treasurer: the same as before, with the addition of Capt. Parnell and Ritchie, Messrs. Middleberger, Mundie, Murison, Farmer, Disher and Canker. After the transaction of the routine business, Lt.-Col. McDonald, of St. Catherine's, was chosen as the delegate from the 7th District to the Convention at Ottawa. The opinion of the meeting with regard to the choice of competitors to be sent to Wimbledon was, that they should be chosen by competition; the best shots with both Enfield and small-bore rifles, at all ranges, to be chosen. Copies of the proceedings were transmitted by the Secretary to the Adjutant-General. After votes of thanks were passed to the Returning-officer, the meeting adjourned.

FROM BELLEVILLE.

15TH BATT.—This corps still continues the semi-weekly drills; the attendance is rather small, owing, I believe, to the fact that merchants and others will not allow their employees to attend. I can't see how it could be otherwise when the Bank of Montreal sets the example.

On Tuesday last the 15th paraded at 3:30 and marched into the country for ball practice. The men are rapidly becoming familiar with the use of the new Peabody rifle, which gives general satisfaction, with the exception that many of the fore-sights are not firm, and become loose by putting on the bayonet.

A Drill Association has been formed here, about 50 strong, composed of officers of the 15th, 49th and two Companies of the 3rd Battalion G. T. R. Brigade, together with gentlemen holding certificates from the Military School and Volunteer Board, not so much for the purpose of learning drill as to retain the knowledge already acquired. We regret exceedingly that the two companies of the 3rd Battalion have been ordered to Montreal for the 24th, and as great preparations are being made by the 15th and 49th to have a grand field-day here, their co-operation is very desirable. I hope the authorities of the Grand Trunk will see the necessity of allowing them to remain here to participate in our field-day—both officers and men, I know, would prefer it.