

"The Army and Navy," band playing "British Grenadiers" and "Rule Britannia," called up Colonel Laurie, who said that the citizens of Halifax were certainly competent to form an opinion of the Army and Navy, as they had them always with them, and knew all their faults, of which, no doubt, they had some, and all their virtues, of which he trusted they had some also. He spoke of the friendship and good feeling which had always existed between the citizens and the garrison and fleet, how many of the latter had become citizens, how the families of Halifax were bound up with the service through marriage. He dwelt upon the new policy enunciated by the Imperial Government, "reculer pour mieux sauter," the policy of concentration, so as to have the whole force in hand and available for any service. Congratulated them that Halifax was not to be deprived of the troops; that the morning drum would still salute the Red Cross flag of England as it floated over the citadel. He pointed out that, as Volunteers, they were especially connected with the army, as their common business was the defence of the land, and spoke of the pleasure and advantage there was in being brought together for manœuvring, as in the late field day, when the 66th had won economies from all who saw it. Remarking that there was no naval officer present, and that even our own Naval Brigade, after a sickly existence, had "gone up," he suggested that Lieut.-Col. Belcher, who was now reshaping the remains into a most efficient brigade of artillery, should be called upon as the nearest representative.

Colonel Belcher denied all connection with the naval force, and stated that he had found a very general willingness on the part of the Naval Brigade to be converted into artillery. He apologised for not being in full dress; stated that so long as he could not obtain badges and chevrons for his non-commissioned officers he could not think that much desire was entertained by those in authority that the brigade should be properly dressed out, and he should do his duty in undress.

"Our Brother Volunteers," replied to by Lieut. Col. Creighton, who promised that the artillery would always do their duty in support of their brother Volunteers.

By Lieut. Col. Pineo, M.P.P., who stated that he had been a Volunteer for some years and had afterwards taken a great interest in the Active Militia, as his old inspecting officer, Colonel L., could vouch for. He had now been passed over to the Reserve, where he should be happy at any time to come forward and reinforce the Active Force.

By Colonel Laurie, who spoke for the 63rd Rifles; stated that Lieut.-Col. Mackinlay had expressed his regret that a pressing engagement had prevented his attending that evening. He hoped the utmost good feeling would always prevail amongst the several corps, and that a healthy rivalry would

conduce to make them all more efficient.

The next toast was that of "Lieut. Col. Brunel," received most enthusiastically. The gallant Colonel, who seemed quite overcome with his reception, referred to the fact that almost all who had assisted him to form the regiment had served with him in the old organization. He knew them and asked them to join him in this new formation—he knew what he might expect from them and he had not been disappointed. Never since he began this organization had he met with any impropriety of conduct on the part of any officer or non-commissioned officer; as a natural result the men had all tried their utmost to do their duty, and with what success their appearance on parade would prove. He much amused the company by his account of an occurrence on parade lately, where in drilling a squad he gave the wrong word of command, all obeyed except one young officer, who stood fast. Repeated again and again, with the same result; he at last asked what he waited for? "The word 'turn,' Sir," was the reply. "Face" had been used by mistake.

"The Clergy," was replied to by the Rev. John Campbell in a most eloquent speech. Whilst all other professions were taken into the Volunteers and employment found for them there was no opening for the clergy. He held that the defence of one's country was a most sacred duty, that the highest type of a christian might be found in the soldier, who placed his life at the disposal of his country and took up arms in defence of his home. Were no other place made for him he should feel it his duty to shoulder his rifle, don the red coat, and place himself under the gallant Colonel's command, should any emergency require his services.

"The Legislature" was replied to by Lt.-Col. Honber, W. J. Grains, M.L.C., and Lt. Col. Pineo, M.P.P.

The toast of "the Ladies" called Capt. Brown, who called up Lieut. Johnston, who called up Capt. C. J. McDonald, who called up Capt. Watt, and between these two a word duel took place, which resulted in much laughter.

Col. Laurie, with the Chairman's permission, then rose and proposed "Prosperity to the 66th Regiment." He dwelt upon the fact that with soldiers' courage was the result of confidence, in themselves, in their weapons, and in their leaders. Although he did not hold to the traditional theory, so dear to the English boy's mind, that we were braver than any other nation; nor did he admit that of our neighbors; that whilst the Britishers had whipped all creation they had whipped the Britishers; still he held that we were a plucky race. We had the best military weapon yet issued to any soldier; our conditions were thus satisfied, and it now rested with the officers to understand that in their case mere courage was not enough; the rank and file do the actual fighting, the officers are simply to command

them and place them in a position to fight; therefore it may be said that everything depended on the officers, and that discipline, which meant complete subordination of the individual will to that of the commander was of more importance than ever, now, especially where the rank and file were educated men and inclined to think for themselves. From his knowledge of this regiment and their commander, and the spirit with which it was animated, he felt sure that there would be no failure on the part of its officers. He felt, therefore, that, humanly speaking, his proposed toast must be fulfilled, and he called upon the guests to drink it with all the honors.

"The Press" was responded to by Mr. Geo. Johnson, who said one of the pleasantest duties of the Fourth Estate was to record the performances of our fellow countrymen, that they had always taken great interest in the Volunteers, had recorded their acts in time of peace, and would certainly, as special correspondents, do the word painting of their gallant deeds in time of war.

"Our Guests" was replied to by the Hon. Jas. McDonald and Lieut. Col. Milsom.

A complimentary benefit is to be given to the Bandmaster of the O. B. G. A., and we are glad to hear it as the high state of efficiency the Band has attained is not less owing to the careful exertions of Mr. Bonner than to the able and constant exertions of Major Ross and officers of the brigade—*Ottawa Citizen*.

VOLUNTEER CONCERT.—A gay assemblage of the youth, wealth and beauty of Fredericton attended the Volunteer Concert and social assembly last evening. After the promenade programme was concluded, the young people engaged in dancing which was kept up with unabated spirit until an early hour this morning. The whole affair passed off in the pleasantest manner, the band performing their part in a manner creditable to themselves and the Battalion to which they are attached.—*New Brunswick Reporter*.

A GOOD GUN AND A GOOD EYE.—A short time ago, during the past winter, one of our Senators purchased a rifle made upon the principle of the Snider from Guilford D. Booth, of this city, and lent it to one of his sons, who lives in Kansas, in the United States. A letter has recently been received by the Senator from his son, who expresses himself much pleased with the Ottawa made gun, and states that he killed a deer with it on a plain or prairie, at a distance of eight hundred yards. This gun we had the pleasure of examining when completed, and certainly we should not desire a more effective weapon for large game. The breech was made after the Snider principle, to take Snider cartridges. The barrel is about two feet long and a little thicker and heavier than the military Snider, with a twist of groove of one in thirty inches. The sights and stock, as well as the barrel and other trimmings, were perfect models of neatness and strength. It is not too much to say, that Ottawa can boast of as good a gun maker as can be found in the Dominion.—*Ottawa Citizen*.