

MILITARY ITEMS.

THE 1st Halifax Militia are to be called out for annual training in a week or two. The drill is to take place after six o'clock, p. m., thereby saving the men from loss of time.

THE Montreal Volunteer Engineer Companies, on their return to the armory after the parade on the Queen's birthday, were entertained by Captain Rutherford and Lieut. McLaren to an excellent and substantial luncheon. The affair was in every respect a pleasant one.

THE ARMY.—The following changes in regiments serving in Canada are announced in the 'London Gazette' of the 11th May:—13th Hussars: Lieut. and Adj. W. Joyce to be Paymaster, vice Honorary Major E. B. Frith, who retires on half-pay. 17th Foot: Ensign S. J. Stevens, from the 20th Foot, to be Ensign, vice R. T. Stewart, who retires. Paymaster, with the honorary rank of Major, E. B. Frith, retired upon half pay, to have the honorary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

A VETERAN.—Private Hilders of No. 1 Company, 13th Battalion, who was severely wounded in the neck in the brush with the Fenians at Limeridge in June last, was abroad yesterday, although still in a feeble condition, and joined his company for the first time since the mishap occurred. He was received with the greatest enthusiasm by his comrades. The gallant soldier has been sustained since his disablement by the Hon. Isaac Buchanan, who removed him to his own residence after he was conveyed home from the field of honor.—[Hamilton Times.]

THE number of experimental breech-loaders before the Committee at Woolwich has now reached over ninety. Many of these, however, are mere inventors' toys, and some of them will not even bear submitting to the first simple test of firing 20 rounds at the 500 yards range. It is even reported that one inventor flatly declined the risk of firing from the weapon which he tendered for adoption, fearing, no doubt, that its destructive power might be demonstrated more unpleasantly to those using it than to those against whom it was directed.—[Army and Navy Gazette.]

PRESENTATION.—On the 24th, on the return of the Volunteers to the drill-shed, the non-commissioned officers and men of No 3 Co., 13th Battalion, presented their color-sergeant, Mr. F. McKenna, with a sash and colors, as a token of esteem for him personally, as well as their appreciation of the manner in which he has always performed his duties since he has been a member of the company. Sergeant McKenna made an appropriate reply, thanking his comrades warmly for their kindness, and hoping that the good feeling towards him on the part of the men might be of long duration.—[Hamilton Times, 25th ult.]

THE INVENTOR OF THE CHALMERS TARGET.—Some days since a paragraph appeared in the Montreal 'Gazette,' in which Mr. James Chalmers, the inventor of the Chalmers Target, and projector of the sub-Channel Railway, is spoken of as a former citizen of Montreal. We have reason to believe, however, that Quebec has, to say the least, an equal claim to Mr. Chalmers. Many years ago, Mr. C. built the steam saw-mill in St. Dominique street, St. Rochs, near McLan's Row, known as McDougall's mill. In 1849 he went out to California as a master-builder, on board the ship 'Rory O'More,' in company with Mr. Chipchase, who is still in the Golden State. It was after his return from California that Mr. Chalmers went to Montreal and started business there.—[Quebec Chronicle.]

PRESENTATION.—After the inspection by Lieut. Col. W. O. Smith, on the Queen's birthday, the brigade of Montreal Garrison Artillery was

formed into hollow square and faced inwards, when Lieut.-Col. Ferrier said he had much pleasure in presenting, on behalf of the officers, non-commissioned officers and gunners of No 4 Battery, to Quartermaster-Sergeant William Lavers a sword and belt complete. Sergeant Lavers had served for many years in No. 4 Battery, and had always been active and zealous in the performance of his duty. On his promotion in November last, Capt. Cole recorded in the battery orderly book his appreciation of the long and faithful services rendered by Sergeant Lavers, and the acknowledgement of those services on the part of the whole battery was now evidenced by the presentation of those handsome and useful articles. On the return to the armory, Quartermaster-Sergeant Lavers made a suitable reply to the battery for the kindly feeling which prompted so handsome a gift.—[Daily News.]

THE 24TH IN COBBOURG.—The cold drizzling rain of Wednesday and Thursday last gave bad promise of good weather on our national holiday, the 24th of May, but the morning, nevertheless, dawned with a bright, clear sky, and the sun rose with unusual splendor. At an early hour the townspeople were astir, and the frequent, almost continuous, discharge of firearms gave intimation that the birthday of our beloved Sovereign was not forgotten, and that now, more than ever, her wise and benign sway, as well as her personal virtues and peaceful disposition, has more than ever endeared her to the hearts of her good and loyal subjects in Canada. At half-past nine the following companies formed in order at Victoria Hall and marched to Victoria Square, near the G. T. R. Station, for battalion drill, &c., viz: Cobourg Artillery Company, Captain Dumble, 46 men; Cobourg Infantry Company No. 2, Capt. Elliott, 42 men; Cobourg Rifle Company, Captain Gravely, 42 men; Colborne Infantry Company, Captain Vars, 42 men; Cold Springs Infantry Company, Capt. Sefford, 42 men; Grafton Infantry Company, Captain Rogers, 42 men; Castleton Infantry Company, Capt. Duncan, 42 men; and Lieut.-Col. Boulton's troop of cavalry, 35 men. Also, the Cobourg juvenile infantry company, under the command of Master Hewson as Captain, 15 boys. They were headed by the band of the 40th Northumberland Battalion, under the leadership of Prof. Rundell. Capt. J. H. Dumble's artillery company was headed by the piper of the company, Corporal David Ross, who rather roused the spirit of the "cool Scot" by rendering in an able manner a number of the favorite airs of Scotland upon their national instrument of music—the bagpipes. The instrument used upon the occasion was lately imported especially for Captain Dumble's Company, was manufactured in London by Wm. Ross, piper to Her Majesty the Queen, and cost the company, we understand, about \$80. Having arrived upon the ground, Col. Smith put the whole battalion through a number of intricate evolutions, which were performed with ease and skill; and for their proficiency and soldier-like bearing, Brigade-Major Patterson highly complimented them. The juveniles he also noticed in a few very happy remarks, and said that should the Volunteers be called from the town to defend our frontiers, he had no doubt but that the many little Britishers whom he was speaking to would do their part to defend our town. At twelve o'clock the battalion fired a "feu de joie," after which it formed in line and marched to Victoria Hall, where a substantial lunch was prepared for them by Mr. Pauwels, who knows so well how to get up such things. At 4 o'clock the commissioned officers of the battalion sat down to a sumptuous dinner in Pauwels' house, prepared by that eminent caterer, the proprietor. The resercho fare was discussed with satisfaction; the toast, &c., was indulged in, and the whole passed off most pleasantly and agreeably.—[Sentinel.]

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY IN BRANTFORD.—The anniversary of our gracious Queen dawned clear, and the sun shone out with a brilliancy which foretold a pleasant day, and in this the people who congregated in town to celebrate the occasion were not disappointed. The weather was at that happy medium which renders it delightful in the open air. The day's proceedings were inaugurated by the firing of a royal salute at 9:30 a. m., in the Victoria Square, by the artillery company belonging to the Grand Trunk Railway, which was done in excellent style. At 11 o'clock the Royal Fusiliers formed in the Market Square, and, headed by their splendid band, marched to Smith's Hill, where they were joined by the Grand Trunk Battalion, composed of three companies in town, the Stratford company, and one from Sarnia and one from St. Mary's, who arrived here this morning; likewise by the 38th Battalion of Volunteers including the Burford Cavalry Troop. The whole then formed in line, and made a display which must have been a pleasing sight to the vast concourse of spectators assembled to witness the review. There could not have been less than 10,000 present on the ground. The whole brigade was under the command of Col. Cooper of the Fusiliers; who had as aide-de-camp the Hon. Mr. Aylmer, and Adjutant Smith as Brigade-Major. Major Hickie commanded the Royal Fusiliers; Col. Patton was in command of the 38th Battalion, and Col. Stevenson, from Toronto, of the Grand Trunk Battalion. After firing a "feu de joie," and three cheers were given for the Queen, the troops were put through a number of evolutions which were performed with admirable precision,—the marching of the Fusiliers was really splendid, and was particularly noticed; while much credit is due the Volunteers for their soldier-like conduct considering the limited opportunities they have had thus far for perfecting themselves in drill. The Review occupied an hour and a half, and at the conclusion, we understand, Colonel Cooper expressed himself much pleased with the appearance presented by our citizen soldiery; and when an officer of his rank and experience expresses such flattering sentiments, we should feel proud of the progress we have made in the training of our Volunteers, and no doubt both officers and men attached to the Volunteer force will feel the compliment paid them. At the conclusion of the review the Fusiliers marched to barracks headed by the band playing lively airs; and the Grand Trunk Battalion, headed by their band, marched through the town and up to the drill shed, where a luncheon had been prepared in really splendid order wherewith to regale their brethren in arms from Stratford, St. Mary's and Sarnia, and where they did ample justice to the good things prepared for them,—the consideration for their engagement being duly appreciated. The Burford cavalry also appeared in force, with much credit as a recent organization.—[Courier.]

A SOLDIER OF FREEDOM.—A month ago there died at Stockholm a man who had been for half his life a knight-errant of freedom. For thirty years of the last half century Major Myhrberg was to be found fighting wherever the cause of liberty appealed to the sword. The old martial spirit of the Vasas and the "Madman of the North," which brought such glory and loss to Sweden, seemed to find a modern embodiment in him. A mere stripling, he abandoned the peaceful career for which he had been prepared by his education at Upsala. He sailed for Portugal, passed into Spain, and fought bravely against the French invaders, by whom he was captured and carried to Marseilles. Such a bird could not be caged. We find him free again, and enrolling himself in a body of French Volunteers, who under the command of General Fabvier struggled desperately for Greece. In