

they have arrived at such perfection that many prefer them to all the Regimental bands that have been stationed here since the departure of the Rifle Brigade.

There was a very interesting rifle match, at the Victoria Range on the morning of the first. The highest score was made by Corp. Brass, 13rd Batt., who headed the list with 66 points out of a possible score of 80. Ranges 200, 400, 500 and 600 yards—five shots at each range. I would like to know if any Volunteer in the Dominion has beaten this with, of course, the government arms and ammunition.

Another rifle match is now being arranged between the 22nd Oxford Rifles and the 13th Batt. The return match between the 13th and the 29th Regt. is to come off some time next week.

SEMPER PARATUS.

FROM WHITBY.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE 34TH BATTALION.—The last week was a busy one in the town of Whitby, the battalion having arrived on the 29th June, at their headquarters for the purpose of putting in eight days drill. The following is the marching in state of the various companies:

No. 1, Whitby Rifles, Capt. Donovan, 3 officers and 37 men.

No. 2, Oshawa Infantry, Capt. Burke, 3 officers and 55 men.

No. 3, Oshawa Rifles, Capt. Michael, 3 officers and 53 men.

No. 4, Whitby Infantry, Capt. Dartnell, 3 officers and 51 men.

No. 5, Prince Albert, Capt. Billings, 2 officers and 54 men.

No. 6, Greenwood, Capt. F. Gibbs, 3 officers and 42 men.

No. 7, Uxbridge, Capt. Spears, 3 officers and 39 men.

No. 8, Columbus, Capt. Farewell, 3 officers and 40 men.

No. 9, Brooklin, Capt. Hodgson, 2 officers and 36 men.

No. 10, Cunnington, Capt. Cowan, 3 officers and 45 men.

There are also 24 members belonging to the band, the whole force of the battalion, mustering—officers and men, 511.

By subsequent arrivals increased his total to the number of 526.

By 3 p.m. the ordinary routine of the battalion was in full organization. A subaltern and a sergeant's guard were mounted, piquets established, and the men comfortably quartered.

The parades were at 6 a.m., 9:30 and 3 p.m.

The weather throughout the week was extremely sultry, the thermometer ranging from 90° to 104° in the shade. The extreme heat combined with the dust proved very distressing, and there were at least two marked cases of sunstroke.

Dominion Day was duly celebrated, there being a crowd of five to six thousand people to witness the ceremony of the presentation of colors to the battalion.

The battalion was formed up as usual into three sides of a square, with the drums piled in the centre, the fourth side being occupied by the Committee of Ladies who

collected the funds (about \$450) for the purchase of the colors. The Rev. Mr. Cayley, M.A., Incumbent of All Saint's Church, Whitby, officiated as Chaplain.

The usual ceremonies were then observed and the presentation made by Mrs. T. N. Gibbs (the wife of the member for the South Riding of the County), who in a very distinct and audible tone, and with most correct enunciation, read the following

ADDRESS.

Lieutenant Colonel Fairbanks, Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Volunteers of 34th Battalion, of the Province of Ontario.

The pleasing duty has been assigned to me, of presenting you these beautiful colors, on behalf of the ladies of the County of Ontario.

They are given as a trifling mark of the esteem in which the volunteers of this county are held, as well as a faint recognition of the zeal and alacrity displayed by your battalion, in common with their comrades in arms, in mustering for service at the front in June, 1866, and proceeding thither when the soil of this peaceful and happy land was invaded by a band of lawless marauders.

It is at once the privilege and the duty of manhood to defend the soil, the homes, the altar, the throne, and the hearths of the country. It is *ours* to watch, and wait, and pray for those who go gallantly forth to turn away the danger from ourselves and our children—*ours* to send you forth with our own best wishes, and a prayer to God for your success and safety—*ours* to welcome you home with such hearty welcome as true soldiers, who have offered their lives for their country, over deserve.

It was not your fortune to meet the invading horde, which fled at your approach, or to share that more immediate danger of the Toronto and Hamilton volunteers, but we know that you went forth to meet them with no laggard step; we know that you would not have shrunk from the encounter had their place been *yours*.

You did your duty in the position to which your military chiefs led you.

If we feel neither *all* the pride nor *all* the sorrows of those "who listen while they weep," to the praises of the glorious fallen of the Queen's Own and 13th, we have cause for thankfulness, that your preservation and safety were not due to any false shrinking from danger.

We feel that you have served us and your country truly and well.

In this, as in still higher matters, "They also serve who wait."

Take these colors, and if you are again summoned to arms, think that your *wives, mothers, sisters, children, and fellow countrymen*, call you to duty to fight for us, as well as your country, and send you forth, fearing much, and trembling much for your safety, knowing the heart aches which apprehended misfortune brings, but in humble reliance upon Almighty God, that he will vouchsafe you his protection in the midst of perils incurred in such a cause. We trust, however, it will be long (if ever) before your services may again be required.

We feel that the past is a guarantee for the future, and that should you be again called to duty you will be found ready as one man, "To spring to arms" and if need be "Ready with your lives."

We rejoice that the County Council has responded to the invitation of Government, and made suitable provision for perfecting you in your drill, by the erection of large and commodious drill sheds throughout the country, and made a liberal grant for the purchase of instruments for a battalion band,

That you may long be spared to enjoy the blessings of a free government, under the benign rule of our beloved sovereign Queen Victoria, and in honor unfurl those flags, is the sincere prayer of those in whose behalf I now present them to the battalion.

Lieut. Col. Fairbanks in returning thanks, said that the present occasion of the presentation of colors to them was not the only one on which the ladies of Ontario deserved the thanks of the volunteers. It was not the first on which the volunteers received from them the kind recognition of their services. When, in 1866, the volunteers left the comforts of their homes to do what was only their duty—to defend their country—the ladies of Ontario were assiduous in providing them with home comforts, and in every way encouraging them by acts of kindness and consideration. It was true that no blood was then shed by the 34th Battalion; but they were as ready to be the first in the front as to accept the position then accorded them. And he assured the ladies, on behalf of the officers and men under his command, that had the occasion afforded them the opportunity, the men of the 34th Battalion would not shrink from doing their duty. He felt the great compliment paid them by the presentation of the colors, and he, without any vainglory, assured them that when duty called those colors, would never be unfurled in an unjust or an unholy cause, but would be defended and supported in the field without a stain by those who had the honor of receiving them.

The Chaplain then proceeded with the consecration ceremony as follows.

Versé—Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Response—Who hath made Heaven and Earth.

V.—The Lord be with you,

R.—And with thy Spirit.

LET US PRAY,

O, Lord God of Hosts, that rulest in the Kingdoms of Men, and dost protect and govern those who put their trust in Thee, we pray Thee to vouchsafe Thy blessing to our Sovereign, Queen Victoria, and to be gracious to the Realm over which, by Thy Providence, she presides. Be Thou the Counsellor and Protector to those who are appointed to defend our Country; Be Thou the Guardian of our Fleets and Armies, that in every just conflict for their country's sake, they may be assured of victory. We pray Thee to vouchsafe to us Thy gracious Presence upon this occasion, that the Colors, on which we now implore Thy Blessing, may always wave over loyal and brave soldiers, and lead them to victory over all their enemies. May they never be unfurled for unrighteous wars, but, when enemies attack us, may they be to all, remembrances of their duty to contend valiantly for Thy Honor and Truth, and for the Defence of our Queen and Her Dominions. May they prove an encouragement to rely upon Thee, the God of Battles, and the only Giver of all Victory. Hear us, we beseech Thee, from Heaven Thy dwelling place, and accept our humble petitions for the sake of Thy only Son our Lord Jesus Christ.—*Amen.*

The colors were then taken in charge by the Ensigns and Color-Sergeants, the regi-