

et. "What wounded officer is that?"—"Captain Napier, of the 52nd—a broken limb." Another litter followed. "Who is that?"—"Captain Napier, 43rd, mortally wounded," (it was thought so then). Charles Napier looked at them and passed to the front.

"The four Napiers," said General Brotherton, "in the field were no bad specimens of the race! Well do I remember the intense anxiety of each, not for himself, but for the brother in danger."

After Sir William Napier's death, Sir John Morillon Wilson thus wrote to his biographer: "My first interview with my dear departed friend, Sir William Napier, was on the battle field of Casal Nova. We were advancing towards the enemy when I saw an officer stretched on the ground, beneath an olive tree. Believing him to be either dead or badly wounded, I ran towards him and said, 'Can I be of any service to you?' He shook his head, but did not utter a word. He looked deadly pale, and I was deeply impressed with the classical outline and beautiful expression of his handsome countenance. I told him I had some cold tea and brandy in my flask, and asked him if I should give him a little of it, at which he raised his head, a sudden beam of pleasure sparkled in his eyes—he stretched out his hand, and I gave him a tumbler full, which he drank with a most interesting expression of unexpected enjoyment—so much so that I gave him a second dose; and when he had finished it, he seized my hand and grasped it several times. I then said, 'Heaven protect you!' and ran away to join my company. I had not the slightest knowledge who he was, and amidst the firing and excitement I did not notice his uniform. I never met him again until about sixteen years afterwards. I was then on a visit to Lady Wilson's father, when dear Sir William dined there. After dinner, I was standing near the fireplace, the gentlemen were speaking of handsome men, and I said of all the handsome men I had ever seen, in the various parts of the world where I had been, there was none at all to be compared with the one whom I then described as above written. Napier sprang from his chair, put his arm around me and exclaimed, 'My dear Wilson was that you? that glass of tea and brandy saved my life!' and a few tears trickled from his bright, animated eyes, expressive of his grateful recollection of the good service I had rendered him in that hour of his need and painful suffering."

Captain Napier was ordered to England for the recovery of his health, at the end of the year, and the following spring (1812) married Caroline Amelia Fox, who for forty-eight years was, as he says, his "wife, friend and everything," and then died within six weeks of him.

Still far from well, and only three weeks married, he hastened back to the Peninsula, but was too late for the storming of Ciudad Rodrigo. His most intimate friend, Macleod, was dead, and his affectionate heart was wrung with agony. "Every one says," he writes, "that I am most fortunate to have the command of such a regiment; for my part, I only find that the recollection of Macleod comes with more bitterness to my mind. What comfort or pleasure can I have in filling a place that belonged to him?" Friendship was a passion to his vehement nature. When he heard of the death of his friend Lloyd, he threw himself on the ground and cried like a boy. Knowing no fear, caring for no hardships, always foremost in the field, he yet keenly felt the horrors of war. "I am a soldier," he writes, "unfitted for any other profession, and yet I took

up my present one lightly and without consideration. I detest it. We are but licensed murderers, and the most brutal and ferocious sentiments are constantly expressed, and actions of the same stamp are constantly committed. It is the more incumbent on me to serve my country in that profession I am most capable of, to prevent the same scenes from taking place at home." "The nature of war is misery;" and in another letter, "nothing ought to make me continue in the army but the necessity of defending my country."

He served in the Peninsula for the remainder of the campaign, but when every body thought that all fighting was over, he obtained leave to go England for medical advice, and thus missed the battle of Toulouse.

At termination of the campaign, he received the brevet rank of lieutenant-colonel, and joined the military college at Fareham. The alarm of war interrupted his studies; and on the terrible 18th of June, 1815, he embarked at Dover to join his regiment in Belgium. He did not know what was being enacted at Waterloo. Thus his fiery spirit was chafed by being a third time too late for a fierce contest.

On the return of the army of occupation, in 1819, Colonel Napier went on half-pay. After being thirty times engaged, having gained two steps and three decorations in the field of battle, and received three wounds—one of them so severe as to leave him for the remainder of his days only a miserable existence—although lieutenant-colonel by brevet, he was still only regimental major.

(To be continued.)

BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM BROCKVILLE.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The officers and non commissioned officers of the Volunteer force here have, under the authority of the Deputy A. A. G. of Militia, formed themselves into a Drill Association. Lieut. Col. Jackson, Brigade Major, has been appointed Commandant. A few standing orders are adopted as a sort of constitution. The Commandant appoints an Adjutant monthly, and issues weekly orders detailing three commanders and one reader, together with the movements to be practised at the next meeting. The mode of conducting these meetings is as follows. The officers fall in and are commanded by the first officer named in the weekly orders. After practicing the opening and closing ranks and officers' salute, the regular parade is formed of a skeleton battalion, the second officer taking command. The programme of movements having been gone through, the parade is dismissed, and re-formed with new commander, new field-officers, new captains and covering sergeants, when the same drill is repeated.

The reading now takes place and must not exceed thirty minutes duration, and need not necessarily be original matter, the subject selected being as a general thing a military one. The whole proceedings do not occupy more than about one and three fourths hours. The importance of an asso-

ciation of this kind to officers and non-commissioned officers who have no opportunity of frequently practicing battalion drill cannot be over estimated, and none need plead the want of facilities to organize a similar one. At any village or town where the officers have any energy, it can be accomplished, a very small number only being required, and as the force is at present somewhat dull, organizations of this kind afford an opportunity to its members to brighten up their drill, as also to learn the new words of command and movements as altered in the latest Field Exercise; and to young officers or others preparing for their examinations, it is an excellent school. In all probability the new Militia Law, so anxiously looked for by the force, will insist upon all officers passing an examination or resigning; hence the necessity for at once preparing for it by the different neighbourhoods meeting together in this way and practicing for say three months, at the expiration of which time those with ordinary ability could pass creditably.

FROM TORONTO.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Nothing of special importance in military matters has transpired during the past week. Suspicion having been awakened by the discovery of wire leading into the magazine, alluded to last week, a cautious volunteer has addressed a letter to the papers here, suggesting the propriety of either allowing the men to take their rifles to their own homes, or placing a guard over the Drill Shed, wherein are the armories of the several battalions.

With reference to the "grants of land to volunteers," recommended so often in the Review, I may as well inform you that the land policy of the government of the Province has been thoroughly discussed during the past week, and last night the resolutions in the Act were adopted almost unanimously. They are to the following effect:—Any person of at least eighteen years of age can go in and settle upon any lot (100 acres) of land lying in the northwesterly part of the Huron and Ottawa Territory, which is provided by the Crown Land Agent more adapted for agricultural than lumbering purposes, and at the end of five years obtain a free grant of the same, provided he fulfil the following conditions. Reside continuously for a period of five years; clear fifteen acres of land—two acres at least to be cleared annually,—and erect a dwelling 16 by 20 feet. After getting his patent, he may cut the remaining timber on payment of the timber dues. Should the results anticipated take place, Canada will before long have a "backbone" in this Province. Dr. Baxter of Haldimand suggested a proviso that volunteers should be granted 50 acres; but, in view of the liberal policy towards all, the proposition had but few supporters, and was speedily withdrawn.