

## 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 HAMILTON.

**13TH BATTALION.**—Considerable dissatisfaction is occasioned in this corps about the arming of it with Spencer rifles, instead of Peabody or Snider rifles, as they were led to expect. In the recent trials by the United States Government, the Spencer was only recommended after the Peabody, which has been adopted as the arm for the United States regular army. I believe Repeating rifles are all very well in their way, but any man can deliver as many shots with a breech-loader of the common kind, as he can aim correctly. The Spencer is very easily got out of order, being rather complicated. Surely, in a matter of this kind, no niggardly feeling of false economy should actuate the Government, but let the force be armed with, at least, as good an arm as the enemy with which it will have to cope. The band connected with the battalion is improving rapidly, and it is hoped in a short time—under its able band master, Mr. Grossman—to be as good as, if not better, than any Volunteer band in the Province.

**FIELD BATTERY.**—This corps met for its usual weekly drill, on Thursday, February 14th. The men were somewhat chagrined at not having Armstrong guns served out instead of smooth-bores. The Battery numbers about fifty or sixty men, and is in a flourishing condition, and can present as good an appearance—both as to drill and members—as any Volunteer Battery in Canada.

**THE HOME GUARD.**—The several independent companies of the Home Guard are making rapid progress in their drill, under the supervision of instructors from the 16th Regiment; some of them are most excellent shots with the rifle, and muster on their drill nights in numbers which should be an incentive to our Volunteer companies.

**DRAMATIC CLUB.**—The amateur dramatic club of the 16th Regiment gave a most successful entertainment on Thursday evening, the 26th ult. The bill consisted of three farces. In "Boots at the Swan" the acting of Color-Sergt. Smith as "Frank Frisky," a Dragoon Officer in mufti, and a "genelum" in the estimation of "Boots" (W. McKay), much afflicted, though he (Boots) was with deafness and a love of good brandy. Master E. Harrington made an excellent "Peter Pippin," though a vile hankering after the sweet things contained in a cupboard brought his ears into frequent contact with the house-maid's red fists. The second farce—"The Irish Tutor"—had been produced several times before by the club, but elicited as much applause as though it were its first appearance. Sergt. Harrington is, perhaps, one of the best Dr. Toolles we have ever seen. The "Widow's Victim," or the "Stage-Struck Barber," followed. Private W. Kay deserves great credit for his excellent rendering of three characters in this piece. His "Hamlet's Soliloquy, or Death," at the request of the very fascinating widow, was remarkably fine. Private Cunningham, the irresistible, fascinating and beautiful widow, done extremely well, but required too much

prompting. The entertainment was agreeably diversified by songs in character, double clog-dig, &c., by members of the Regiment. The band, under Corporal England, was in attendance, and discussed some very fine music.

The entire strength of the 16th Regiment had a march-out on Wednesday, 27th, in heavy marching order, and presented a very fine appearance.

On Thursday morning, the 28th, about two o'clock, a fire broke out in the officers' quarters of the 16th Regiment. Word having been sent to the barracks and engine house, a number of soldiers and the fire-brigade were soon on the spot, and succeeded in putting out the fire before it had got much headway. The contents of two rooms were destroyed. It is not yet known how it originated.

### FROM COLBORNE.

A meeting of the officers of the 40th (North-umberland) Volunteers took place at Colborne, on Thursday, the 21st of February, to discuss regimental matters. The following officers were present:—Lieut.-Col. W. Smith, Major Wainwright, Capt. and Adj. H. Smith, Capt. Elliott and Graveloy, (Cobourg); Rogers, (Grafton); Vars, (Colborne); Webb, (Brighton); Hurlbut, (Warkworth); Duncan, (Castleton); Gifford, (Cold Springs); Lieuts. Floyd, H. R. Floyd, Stanley, Denne, Ewing and Crozier. Ensigns Austin and Campbell, and Assistant-Surgeon Dr. Norman Bethune. The only Company in the County unrepresented being No. 3, Campbellford. Arrangements were made for the formation and maintenance of a band. The adoption of the simple number of the battalion, as a forage-cap badge for officers, was decided on, and the questions of forage caps and numerals for the men, light coats for officers' summer wear, &c., were discussed and settled. The officers of the Cobourg Companies, to which the ladies of that town (ever foremost in graceful generosity to the Volunteers) some time since presented a magnificent stand of colors, most handsomely permitted the whole battalion to consider them as their own, and the inscription on the colors will accordingly be altered to "the 40th Battalion." The officers dined together at Mrs. Macdonald hotel, and separated at an early hour, many of them having considerable distance to travel home.

### FROM DELAWARE.

**26TH MIDDLESEX BATTALION.**—On Saturday last Lieut.-Col. Graham brought to a close the inspection of this battalion, by inspecting No. 1 or Capt. Bullen's Company, at the village of Delaware. Among other manoeuvres the Company were marched past at the "double" and at the "run," which they accomplished very creditably. In the evening a substantial dinner was given to the Company by the officers and honorary members, several of whom were present, and all enjoyed themselves. The usual loyal toasts were done justice to, and the Lieut.-Colonel, in the course of some remarks, complimented the Company on their turn-out and general appearance. He said there was not much doing in the 26th Battalion at present, in consequence of having put in their yearly drill at Thorold Camp, but he trusted they would start with renewed vigour with the commencement of the new Militia year in July. They must not suppose, however, that the Militia department was idle. They had in the Adj.-General—Col. Macdougall—the right man in the right place; and he was working quietly and steadily for the improvement of the force. No doubt one of the first tasks of the Govern-

ment, on the completion of the great political changes which were taking place, would be to place the defence of the country on a proper footing. He was pleased to see by the papers that the Adj.-General was engaged in the preparation of a new Militia Bill, and he had no doubt that the effect would be, by taking steps to train the population at large as a reserve, that the ranks of the active force would be filled up, and Captains of Companies, instead of having to coax men to join as at present, would find their difficulty to consist in knowing whom to reject. Capt. Bullen, in returning thanks for the officers of the Delaware Company, alluded to the difficulty experienced by Captains in keeping up their companies to the full strength, and attributed it, in a great measure, as regarded his own company, to the lukewarmness of the inhabitants generally, with a few honorable exceptions. He thought that, considering the sacrifices to which Volunteers made themselves liable, in placing themselves at the disposal of the Government whenever their services were required for a mere nominal remuneration, they were deserving of more consideration and support from those who preferred staying at home.

### FROM GRIMSBY.

**VOLUNTEER L.L.**—A very pleasant ball was held at Grimsby, O. W., under the auspices of the Grimsby Cavalry Company—Capt. Book—on Friday evening, 15th February, in the Town Hall. About fifty couples were present, including all the youth and beauty of that favored locality. The brilliant Hussar uniform of the Company presented quite a novel appearance. About twelve o'clock the party partook of a splendid supper, prepared by mine host—Capt. Randall, of the Mansion House. This splendid corps numbers about fifty men, and is well mounted and highly efficient in drill.

### QUARTERLY INSPECTIONS

By Lieut.-Col. Jackson, Brigade Major, No. 1 Division, Upper Canada:

Monday, February 4th—Millar's Corner's and Vernon.

Tuesday, 5th—Russell.

Wednesday, 6th—Metcalfe.

Thursday, 7th—Manotick and North Gower.

Friday, 8th—Burritt's Rapids and Merrickville.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—In answer to "Ian," we may say, 1st—That the Civil Service Regiment was removed from the Brigade Division, as the exigencies of the public service will not admit of their being called out for inspection or drill except at special times. 2nd—The question of precedence has not been raised further than pointed out in the Queen's regulations. The Grand Trunk organization is a distinct force for special duty, the same as the Civil Service Regiment. 3rd—The Commander-in-Chief appoints who he thinks fit as commandant in any place. 4th—The act 27 Vic., cap. 3, section 34, points out distinctly the order in which command shall be taken when Volunteers or Militia, or both, are on parade, and our correspondent will see that his question is there fully answered.

For the Volunteer Review.

HAMILTON, C. W., Feb. 15, 1867.

DEAR REVIEW—As I have been a constant reader of your valuable paper since its commencement, I thought I would send you a few notes of the movements of our 13th Battalion