

of hospital men who could attend to the ambulances, stores and appliances for the sick and wounded. The doctors were consequently not sent out, it being obviously better for the committee not to act on their own lines, but under the guidance of those on the other side. There would be a great amount of distress for some considerable time yet. Many men had fallen, and there were numbers of widows and children to be provided for. As far as the wounded were concerned, the committee had very wisely decided that no distinction should be made between those who had fought on the Government side, and those who, from a mistaken idea, had been in the ranks of the rebels. From what he knew of Canada there was a great difficulty in raising money, and he could state with confidence that every penny that was subscribed would be most thankfully and gratefully accepted and very judiciously administered."

Later accounts shew that upwards of \$8,000 have already been subscribed in aid of the same object for which Canadian benevolence has already been appealed to, and Dr. Boyd, with some medical and other comforts to the value of \$2,500, has already reached Winnipeg.

### OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

#### A CHANCE FOR THE VICTORIA CROSS.

SOME years ago the Queen was graciously pleased to institute the Order of Valor, in which are enrolled the honored recipients of the Victoria Cross, the most highly coveted decoration in the British army. It is conferred solely upon those who have distinguished themselves by some peculiarly daring deed under fire, more particularly in the rescue of wounded comrades or in averting disaster by which heavy loss of life would be incurred. We venture to believe that at least one Toronto volunteer has earned a title to be distinguished as the recipient of Her Majesty's favor in this regard, and it is with pardonable pride that we represent in our frontispiece the gallant deed performed by one who has sent sketches from the front of so many incidents that have found illustration in the pages of the CANADIAN PICTORIAL. As Col.-Sergeant Curzon was altogether too modest to avail himself of his position as our special artist to supply us with a sketch of an incident of which he was personally the hero, our illustration is based upon the descriptions furnished us from other quarters, but it will be found sufficiently accurate. Our attention was first attracted by the following allusion to the circumstance which appeared in the columns of the Toronto Mail:—

"There was one case of heroism which deserves mention. One of the Grenadiers was seriously wounded at Batoche, and would have bled to death had he been left any length of time. Col. Sergt. Curzon, under a shower of rebel bullets, at once knelt down and stopped the hemorrhage and carried his wounded comrade to a place of safety, marching coolly away to the music provided by the guns of the enemy."

An official report of the occurrence has doubtless been forwarded to headquarters by Col. Grassett, who takes such deep pride in whatever affects the credit of the Royal Grenadiers, and we venture to hope that, should Gen. Middleton's recommendation be able to secure the coveted decoration for Sergt. Curzon, his heroic deed may find its highest reward in the honor being personally bestowed by Her Majesty. As his name is included among the members of the Wimbledon Team of 1885, his presence in England this summer will afford an opportunity for bringing this within the bounds of possibility.

MAJOR-GENERAL MIDDLETON, C. B., of whom we present such a portrait this week as many of our readers will be glad to have framed, is now so well known in connection with his services in the North-West, that Canadians will feel less interest than at first in his career before he entered upon his duties as Commander-in-chief of the Canadian militia.

Though at the outset all manner of criticisms were indulged in as to the conduct of the campaign—in most cases by people who knew little of soldiering and had no experience whatever of active service—every one is now agreed that the General's strategy has been wise and its execution vigorous. Indeed, to adopt a well-known saying, he has "made haste slowly" with the best possible results. Every scrap of information that has come from the front tends to confirm the impression that the troops—raw and unseasoned militia, be it remembered—have been handled with

consummate skill, and with such tact and judgment as inspired the utmost mutual confidence between all ranks of the service. Many a family has cause to remember with gratitude the kindly forethought and consideration which impelled the General to postpone the assault upon the enemy's rifle pits until the troops had become in effect seasoned and disciplined, so that the movement which "broke the back of the rebellion" could be carried out with the least possible loss of life. It is pleasant to listen to the glowing testimony paid by the wounded men of the Royal Grenadiers who have returned to Toronto as to the universal popularity of General Middleton with the rank and file; it fully confirms all that the press correspondents have written on the subject. How different the results of the campaign might have been had the North-West Field Force been commanded by an officer who failed to establish an *entente cordiale* based on affection, respect, and confidence, it is unnecessary to speculate now; but we may freely express the opinion that, had the bullet which penetrated the fur cap of General Middleton at the engagement of Fish Creek only passed through his brain instead, the "little war" in which Canada has tried her 'prentice hand would by this time have developed into a most formidable undertaking.

#### THE 62ND BATT., ST. JOHN FUSILIERS

were not called out for active service until the campaign in the North-West had been some time in progress; but news of the engagement at Fish Creek had fired the patriotic spirit of New Brunswick, so that a prompt and enthusiastic response was made to the call to arms. According to the St. John Telegraph, on Saturday night, May 16th, Lieut.-Col. Blaine received instructions from Deputy Adjutant-General Maunsell, at Fredericton, to have his battalion in readiness to march on Monday, at an hour to be subsequently named. On Sunday the order came for the battalion to be ready to embark at the Intercolonial Railway depot at 1 p.m., next day. The orders to move were received with the greatest enthusiasm by the men ordered to the front, and, although they were not published, every volunteer appeared to be fully aware of the instructions received by their Colonel long before 10 o'clock. Surgeon Walker and Assistant-Surgeon Macfarland continued the medical examination begun on Saturday, completing it late in the afternoon of Sunday. The number of men rejected was small, much smaller than is usually the case even in the regular service when only a portion of a regiment is ordered out. Those selected are a fine body of men, who, if occasion required, would give a good account of themselves either on the field or on the march. They will be found always ready and willing to do all that may be required of them. The number of recruits who came into the battalion in anticipation of service in the field is astonishing. One company alone doubled its numbers, and is now largely over strength. While this was the largest increase that occurred, each of the other three companies had five or six spare men.

Our illustration shows the battalion marching to the cars to proceed to the Camp Sussex, where the men still remain, pending further orders. A provisional New Brunswick battalion of infantry, including "A" Company, Infantry School Corps, has been formed, of which Lt.-Col. Maunsell, D.A.G., has the command, with Lt.-Col. Beer and Lt.-Col. Blaine as his field officers. Being unable to devote more than a page to New Brunswick in the present issue, the portraits, which should have appeared this week will be presented in our next—unless the arrival of sketches from the front of surpassing interest should necessitate a further postponement. In a private letter, Col. Maunsell speaks of the battalion in the following strain:—"A finer body of officers and men no one could desire to command; and, as all corps have turned out their full strength, it shows how united Canadians are, seeing that we in the far east are ready and willing to take part in suppressing the rebellion."

#### CAMP DENISON, HUMBOLDT, N. W. T.

The views we present of the camp of the Governor-General's Body Guard will have special interest for citizens of Toronto. In justice, however, to Trooper Kershaw, whose sketch was perfectly correct, we are free to confess that our artist, for the sake of picturesque effect, has unfortunately misrepresented the true appearance of military horse lines. The regulations prescribe that the interval between each charger shall be two yards, and Col. Denison is far too good a cavalry officer

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