

Devonshire Regiment, who has been appointed to the command of a Regimental District. Colonel Street is a native of St. Andrews, N.B., where his family has long been settled and holds a distinguished social position. He has seen much service and was with Lord Roberts in Afghanistan. Colonel Street is a cousin of Mr. C. F. Street, of the Department of Finance, Ottawa.

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The last surviving New York veteran of the war of 1812, General A. S. Dally, died in Brooklyn on Feb. 15. Genl. Dally was in his ninety-eighth year, and until recently had been in very good health. He was born in New York City, Aug. 12, 1795. He served during the War of 1812 in the 11th N.Y. State Artillery and afterwards on the U.S. revenue cutter *Alert*.

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Mr. H. C. Heincke, formerly bandmaster of the 29th Batt. Band, has left Berlin for Woodstock, where he has secured a position as bandmaster.

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The habitual politeness of the great Duke of Wellington towards correspondents is exemplified by an anecdote related in the *Sunday Magazine*. When King George IV. was suffering from some ailment of the eyes, Dr. Newman Hall's father wrote to the Duke of Wellington, then Prime Minister, suggesting a trial of a small magnetic instrument, and received the following reply in the Duke's own handwriting: "The Duke of Wellington presents his compliments to Mr. Hall, and has received his letter. The Duke is responsible for a great deal, but that for which he cannot make himself responsible is the care of His Majesty's health, and most particularly of His Majesty's eyes. The Duke therefore begs leave to recommend to Mr. Hall to make his suggestion to His Majesty's physicians."

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Col. Graves, Royal Engineers, who was in charge of the British section of the coming Chicago Exhibition, died suddenly a few days ago. His death was a great loss to the British exhibitors and to the Royal Commissioners, whose entire confidence he enjoyed. Sir Henry Trueman Wood sails for Chicago Wednesday, and will himself take charge of the British section.

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Mr. Daniel Cahill, a well-known and esteemed citizen of Toronto, passed away on 13th inst. at the residence of his son, Mr. W. H. Cahill, of 257 Sackville street. The deceased was born in Queen's county, Ireland, 77 years ago, and served with credit in the British army. He has been in Canada for twenty years.

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Sir Archibald Alison has just entered upon his sixty-eighth year and retires from the army. He is among the front rank of Britain's most distinguished soldiers. Appointed as ensign to the 72nd Highland Regiment when he was barely nineteen, he nine years afterwards led the bare-legged clansmen up the heights of Alma, and, after an eventful career right through the Mutiny and the Ashanti Expedition, he, under the fierce fire of Arabi's followers stormed the entrenchments at Tel-el-Kebir, for which he was promoted to the post of Lieut.-General. Sir Archibald was a firm believer from the first in the great volunteer wave which a quarter of a century ago passed over our country, and he has supported and encouraged the movement in every possible shape and form. He will be accompanied into his retirement by the regret of all connected with the Army, and it is a great pity that so competent an officer in the full possession of grand mental faculties should be compelled by an unnecessarily severe military rule to pass into the oblivion of private life. Sir Archibald is a ready speaker, and is the owner of only one arm, his other having been shot off at Lucknow. He can often be seen in Rotten-row during the season, and is the cynosure of all those who admire equestrianism of the first class.

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A WATERLOO CHARGER.

In a very interesting article appearing in the *Halifax Mail* entitled "Historical Bridgetown" there are many entertaining military reminiscences. Among them is the following:

One summer afternoon a large detachment of soldiers, en route for Annapolis, headed by a military band, marched through the town and took up a position on the green in front of the old tavern. Here arms were piled and preparations made for a halt until the next morning. In the evening, after tea, the people having flocked to the town in great numbers to see the troops, the unusual feature of a band adding to the attraction, the officers ordered the band to play for the amusement of those present. Among the sight-seers was a farmer named Rice, who had ridden into town on an old horse which had formerly been a Waterloo charger. Hitching him slightly to a fence half way between the Tavern House and the corner of Granville street, Mr. Rice strolled leisurely towards the troops. Directly the band struck up the old charger was seen to tug at his fastenings, and making his escape, trotted down the street with head and tail erect, wheeled into the green and took up a position beside the band in review order, the strains of martial music recalling to his recollection the manoeuvres of his military days.

Correspondence.

A PLEA FOR COUNTY BATTALION BANDS.

To the Editor of THE CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE:

SIR,—Permit me, through the columns of the GAZETTE, to agitate for a little better treatment toward the Bands of our County Battalions. It cannot be denied, but that to have an efficient Band, the members thereof must be located in one place, within easy distance of a centre, for practice, at least once a week. As a natural result the members of a Band do reside near each other, know each other thoroughly, in fact are "Comrades." Such being the case would it not be far better, when attending Camps of Exercise, instead of dispersing the members among the several companies for subsistence and quarters, to have the Band placed on the strength of the Staff, tent by themselves and draw their own rations. After working (practicing) together week after week for one, it may be two years, the members have a decided objection to be scattered among the companies in which they probably do not know a single individual. As an example, I know of a battalion, some of whose companies are divided by a distance of over 70 miles. The Band some 20 or 40 strong is located in a village and practice weekly in winter—other seasons twice a week, pay a good salary to a Bandmaster and try to make the Band a credit to the battalion, but many of them are determined when their 3 years expire to leave the Band unless they are allowed to tent and mess together while in camp. Again, a bandsman should have some place to keep his instrument when not in use, and not leave it at the mercy of some ignorant or careless "Tommy Atkins" who, in many cases, cannot look properly after his own property. Tents which have their full complement of men and their arms and accoutrements, cannot be a safe resting place for delicate band instruments, some of which cost 60 or 80 dollars each. The better way would be for the "powers that be," to give each Band a marquee, where it would be a unit in itself—have sufficient room to dispose of its instruments—and practice in hot or wet weather, and be at all times under the superintendence of the Bandmaster. After many years of study, I have come to the conclusion that if the above changes were allowed, better musicians would be enrolled, and consequently the efficiency of the Bands greatly increased, without any more outlay than what is at present incurred.

TO SUMMARIZE.

At camp, place the Band on pay and subsistence sheet by itself.

Give it a marquee for their own use, in fact treat it as a company which contains men of more skill than the average company of a battalion.

AN OLD REGULAR AND FOR MANY YEARS A
CANADIAN VOLUNTEER.