

apart from its blasphemy, is on a par with the most vulgar of street ballads.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of a pamphlet entitled; "Reply of certain Retired Officers of the 7th Battalion of London Volunteers," &c., &c. One of the most difficult lessons in the education of a soldier is that total abnegation of self which renders him, under arms, part of a great machine moving at the will of others, and at all times submissive under every disadvantage, discouragement and annoyance to that strict discipline and deference to authority which forms so marked a difference between military and civil life. Strict discipline is always irksome to bear, and when it is enforced ungraciously in a tyrannical spirit by a vulgar minded man, individual forbearance displays more true heroism than facing the most imminent and appalling danger.

A strict disciplinarian, a gentleman of refined mind and education, and a man noted for kindness of heart and generosity of temper, Lieutenant-Colonel Wily, commanding the late Civil Service Regiment, illustrated the despotism of discipline in a speech of singular power and ability on the occasion of that corps being disbanded, in which, after thanking officers and men for the aid they had given him in maintaining discipline and administering the economy of the battalion, by comparing it to a *hand of iron which might be covered with velvet but the iron remained there still*. This simple and beautiful illustration exhibits the principle involved in the pamphlet whose title is quoted in this article in a proper light. It is not necessary to reinvestigate the painful circumstances which led to the resignation of nine officers of the 7th Battalion, depriving the country of their services and establishing a precedent as dangerous as novel.

That the commanding officer of the corps may have been wanting in that courtesy and geniality of temperament so necessary to temper the rigor of discipline is probable enough, but that would not warrant his subordinate officers conspiring against him and seeking to force him out of the corps. He may shew the iron hand without the velvet covering, but it is the hand of authority and must be supported at all hazards.

It is a pity those gentlemen did not listen to the courteous, wise, and kind advice given by the Adjutant-General, for they might easily have reasoned that a soldier of his experience had only the good of the service and their own benefit in view. He knew well that the allegations against Lieut.-Col. Lewis were altogether insufficient to found charges necessary to bring that officer to a Court Martial, and he endeavored to heal a breach which social dignity and want of a true appreciation of the relations existing between the superior and inferior officers rendered irreparable. When the matter would not be accommodated he was compelled to let discipline be asserted in the ordinary way.

We are sorry to see those gentlemen take a course directly opposed to strict military law, and we must say that amongst Volunteers there is a special necessity for rigorously enforcing its provisions in order to teach our people the necessity of recognizing that each individual must be a soldier and civilian, and in the first capacity forget their privileges or social rank in the latter. In fact this pamphlet shows us that the stern lesson of self abnegation has yet to be learned.

The pamphlet also states that Sir G. E. Cartier and Mr. Alexander Mackenzie, M.P., have made misstatements respecting the unfortunate quarrel contained in the narrative. This will be news to those who know the honorable gentlemen, neither of whom speak without a thorough knowledge of their subjects.

We do not wish to pursue this painful subject further, but hope it will prove a useful lesson to all who read the pamphlet, and that lesson should be to inculcate patience in the discharge of duty, and to bear and forbear. Those who have had experience in the regular service could give useful hints on such subjects, having too often to encounter the grip of the *iron hand* without the *velvet*.

Our Montreal Correspondent having been ordered the Front, we cannot gratify our readers with his usual communications.

MR. FINLAY, formerly editor and proprietor of the *Scottish American Journal*, will assume the Editorial Chair of the *Canada Scotsman*.

THERE are 6000 Volunteers under arms on the Frontier. The Militia Department have received no less than offers from 10,000 Volunteers for service in the Northwest.

THERE is a great outcry made just now for uniforms for the Volunteer force—the clothing being in the last year of its lawful wear. There can be no doubt but it would enhance the appearance of the men if their new uniforms could be issued, but as that operation cannot be performed in a day patience will enable the true soldier to bear the disappointment as he has to bear other evils which will be cured in due time.

THE Rev. Father Richot and Mr. Alfred Scott underwent an examination before the Police Magistrate on Thursday the 21st inst. A number of witnesses were examined, but failed to connect them in any way with the Red River murder. They were finally liberated on bail, as Mr. Hugh Scott, brother of the murdered man, swore that the Rev. Mr. Young, now in Toronto, could give the necessary evidence.

G. C. REFFINSTEIN was convicted of misdemeanor and felony and sentenced on Wednesday to one month's imprisonment in the County Gaol and four years with hard labor in the Penitentiary. This unfortunate man has expiated his errors by what is in effect a hard sentence. There were two convictions on the charge of felony and he was sentenced

to two periods of *four years* in the Penitentiary, but as the judge took a merciful view of his case, and his imprisonment for over six months in the County Gaol they were to be "concurrent" there can be scarcely any doubt that the ends of justice have been fully vindicated. The Assizes closed on Thursday the 21st instant.

THE Brockville & Ottawa Railway Battery of Garrison Artillery, gave their annual ball in the Victoria Hall on the 19th instant. It was under the patronage of Mr. Richardson, President, and Mr. H. Abbott, Manager of the road, also Captain Worsley, and Lieutenants Lowe and Hume. The decorations surpassed anything heretofore witnessed in Brockville, and reflected the highest credit on both officers and men of the battery for the very liberal expenditure and good taste displayed. The music was supplied by the band of the Royal Canadian Rifles, which is a sufficient guarantee for its excellence.

Among the invited guests present were Lieut.-Colonels Atcherley, D.A.G., Jackson, B.M., Buell, 42nd Battalion, and Sharpe, late R.C.R., Capt. Redmond, Lieutenants Beal and Steel. The men of the Battery turned out in full strength, looking even more smart and soldierlike than usual. The ladies we cannot name, suffice it to say that the beauty, fashion, and elite of the town were present, the company numbering about four hundred.

The scarlet Staff, and Infantry tunics, mixed with the dark blue of the Artillery, the gay and fashionable costumes of the ladies, together with the magnificent decorations, which consisted of flags, shields, coats of arms, devices in bright bayonets, arms, etc., all illuminated with the brightest of gas, made the scene most pleasing and attractive. The refreshment room was supplied with all the delicacies of the season, which always helps to make a company genial. Dancing was kept up with vigor until a late hour, when the guests gradually withdrew, all speaking in the highest terms of the entertainment. Captain and Mrs. Worsley, Lieutenants Lowe and Hume, of the Battery, and Mr. Abbott, were indefatigable in their exertions to entertain the company, and the Secretary, Bombadier Jennings, was also present to render assistance.

REVIEWS.

THE 24th No. of the *Canadian Illustrated News* has the following illustrations: Accident on the Ice; Lookout on the Pacific Railway; Tableau Variety at the Mechanics' Hall, Montreal; "Our Canadian Portrait Gallery," containing portraits of Honorable A. J. Smith, Q.C., M.P., Honorable J. H. Cameron, Q.C., D.C.L., M.P., Honorable G. Irvine, Q.C., M.A., M.P., and J. Rymal, Esq., M.P.; the Queen's Drawing Room; Moonlight, and "In the Sepulchre"—the two last are beautiful pictures.