

officer her own force, and if that course had been pursued in 1885 we would have been saved millions of money in the North-West campaign.

Col. Denison complained of the drill shed accomodation in Toronto when he was informed that the matter was provided for in the supplementary estimates.

Mr. Kenny said a drill shed was required at Halifax. The Minister said everything could not be done in one year. Sir Richard Cartwright alluded to the damage done the present one during the late election.

Mr. Shakespeare complained of the shed at Victoria, which was a mere barn. The population of the province was increasing rapidly, and the force could likewise be increased if treated with any consideration. Mr. Baker also spoke on this point.

Mr. Campbell drew attention to the claims of Chatham, Ont., to a drill shed. Then ensued a breeze over some remarks of Mr. Jones respecting the Halifax shed.

Sir Richard Cartwright took the item \$12,000 for the care of late Imperial properties as a text for an enquiry about the talked-of scheme of Imperial defence, and asked if Canada were in any way committed.

Sir Charles Tupper intimated that there was no intention of changing the present relations.

Mr. Mills, of Annapolis, ridiculed the idea of the Government preserving Fort Anne in its present condition. Let them either repair it or give it up. It was now a cow pasture, and had no guns, though it had had 135 pieces of ordnance. It should be restored, armed, and manned. Mr. Jones said there was a movement to induce the government to sell the old fort for some \$2,000, when it was worth \$20,000. Mr. Weldon accused Mr. Jones when in charge of Fort Cumberland of selling the old French cannon to be cast into stoves, which Mr. Jones repudiated.

On the item of \$10,000 for barracks in British Columbia, Mr. Baker asked whether it was the honest intention of the Government to spend that money this year, to which the Minister aptly retorted that Mr. Baker's political attitude showed his belief in the *bona fides* of the Government.

Records of our Militia Corps.—IX.

The Sixth Fusiliers.

COMPILED BY CAPT. R. G. PETTIGREW, ADJUTANT.

"Vestigia nulla retrorsum."

(Continued from page 787.)

THE formation of this battalion was an outcome of the excitement caused by the now historical "Trent" affair.

Among the general orders of 10th January, 1862, issued from Quebec, there appears:—

"No. 1. The formation of the following corps is hereby authorized, viz.: one volunteer militia rifle company to be styled 'the 7th Volunteer Militia Rifle Co., of Montreal.' To be captain, Ashley Hibbard, Esq.; to be lieutenant, Robert Wall, gentleman; to be ensign, Robert Newbald, gentleman."

In the next *Gazette*, 17th January, 1862, three other companies were authorized with the following officers: Captains Samuel Filer, Chas. Binmore and John Helder Isaacson; lieutenants, Thos. Binmore, Alex. Colquhoun, jr., and J. A. Rogers; ensigns, Chas. Radcliffe Dearnally, James Masters Primate and Geo. McGibbon.

Again, on 31st January, 1862, two other companies were gazetted with Captains John Porter and Ben. Ibottson, Lieutenants Wm. Arnold Bates and Ed. Douglass Thompson, Ensigns Joseph Lee and Campbell Bryson as officers. On same date the six companies were formed into a battalion under the designation of the "6th Batt. Volunteer Militia Rifles, Canada," under the command of Major Ashley Hibbard. Nothing but accoutrements having been supplied by the militia authorities, the clothing was procured from Messrs. Hibbert & Co., London, Eng.

The *Gazette* of 7th February, 1862, contained the following promotions and appointments: "To be lieutenant-colonel, Major Ashley Hibbard; to be majors, Sir Edward Graham, Bart., and Capt. Murdoch Morison, of 3rd. Batt., Montreal; to be adjutant, Ens. C. R. Dearnally; to be quarter-master, Hercules Ellis, gentleman; to be surgeon, J. P. Rottot, M.D.; to be asst.-surgeon, O. Raymond, M.D.;" and in *Gazette* of 21st February, 1862, Ensign Francis Crispo, from 6th Batt., Sedentary Militia, was appointed pay-master, thus completing staff of the battalion.

On 1st August, 1862, two additional companies were authorized with the following officers: Captains (Paymaster) F. Crispo and John Martin, Lieutenants Wm. Henry Manley and Rowland Wm. Mucklestone, and Ensigns Charles Arthur Rice and Samuel Perry.

The designation of the battalion having been changed from "Rifles" to the "6th Batt. Hochelaga Light Infantry," the ladies of the city presented a pair of colors, the formal presentation being made by Major-General Lord F. Paulet, commanding the district.

In December, 1864, the battalion was placed on active service, and one company, under Capt. Wall, proceeded on duty to Prescott, and was relieved therefrom early in 1865.

In January, 1865, Major R. P. Hawkes (late Lieut. H. M. 47th Foot) assumed command, replacing Major Theo. Lyman, who had been appointed to a position on the staff.

On 23rd March, 1866, one hundred n.c.o.'s. and men proceeded on frontier duty, one company with Capt. R. Wall, Lieut. A. Crawford and Ensign Beckett was stationed at Fort Lennox, Isle-aux-Noix, the other with Capt. H. H. Geddes and Lieut. J. M. H. Dixon was detailed to do duty at St. Valentine.

On 21st April, 1866, the afore-mentioned companies were changed, one under Capt. Geddes returning to headquarters, the other under Capt. Wall being stationed at Stottsville until May 1st, when it returned to Montreal, and, with two other companies of the battalion, proceeded to Cornwall, the officers accompanying this, the right wing of the battalion being Lieut.-Colonel R. P. Hawkes, Captains R. Wall, John Martin and H. H. Geddes, Lieutenants A. Crawford, and J. M. H. Dixon and Ensigns J. C. Sinton, R. Gardner, jr., and J. Seebold. At Cornwall an administrative battalion was formed under command of Lieut.-Colonel Hawkes, Major D. Bergin being the Major. It was composed of three companies of the 6th, two companies rifles and one of infantry belonging to Cornwall, and was augmented later on by Nos. 1 and 3 companies of the Ottawa Rifles.

About the beginning of July the battalion was broken up, two companies of the 6th returning to Montreal, the other under command of Capt. Geddes remaining at Cornwall until July 14th, when it returned to Montreal and was dismissed from active service. The greater part of this company had been on duty for four months. During the time the right wing of the battalion was at Cornwall, the left was not altogether idle, as on 3rd June, under command of Major J. H. Isaacson, it assisted in garrisoning Fort Lennox and Stottsville.

On 30th November, 1866, Major J. H. Isaacson assumed command of the battalion, *vice* R. P. Hawkes, resigned.

On 1st July, 1867 (the first Dominion Day), the battalion was present at a grand review held at Logan's farm, Montreal, at which was present the whole of the Montreal garrison (regular and volunteer). It also acted as guard of honor on Victoria square during the reading of the "proclamation" by the Mayor (Hon. H. Starnes).

Under the new Dominion Militia Act it reorganized as a five-company battalion, Lieut.-Colonel Isaacson in command.

On 13th April, 1868, the battalion had the melancholy honor of assisting at the funeral of the Hon. T. D. McGee, who had been shot, by a Fenian assassin, while attending to his parliamentary duties at Ottawa.

On 23rd December, 1869, Lieut.-Colonel Isaacson resigned command and was succeeded by Major John Martin as major in command.

On Her Majesty's birthday, 1870, the battalion assembled to take part in the customary review. The day being wet orders were issued not to turn out, but await further orders. These came about one o'clock, and were for the battalion to form up in brigade. The brigade having formed a hollow square, Lieut.-Colonel W. Osborne Smith, D.A.G., made the following address: "The Fenians are on the border and I shall want a company from each battalion to proceed to the front this afternoon, whilst the rest of you will remain under arms ready to leave at a moment's notice. Men of the 5th district, you are now, from this moment, under pay and on active service. I will now dismiss you to your private parades, so that the companies leaving this afternoon can go home and get some clothing and something to eat. First of all I would ask you to give three cheers for Her Most Gracious Majesty, whose birthday this is." The cheers having been given, and three more for Colonel Smith (an officer whose soldier-like qualities are yet kindly remembered by the "old timers" of the 5th district), the brigade marched to private parades.

One company of the 6th being required for immediate service the whole battalion volunteered, but Capt. Gardner's (No. 3) was the lucky company chosen, and at 3 o'clock paraded. After inspection by the D.A.G. the company proceeded to Bonaventure station, and at 7 o'clock, accompanied by a company each of the 1st, 3rd and 5th battalions, started for St. Johns, P.Q. The officers were Capt. R. Gardner, Lieut. D. Seath and Ensign J. G. Seebold. The company was billeted at St. Johns and was joined by the rest of the battalion on the evening of the 25th. The force at St. Johns consisted of the Prince Consort's Own Rifle Brigade, under Colonel Lord Alex. Russell, Capt. Glynn's battery of Royal Artillery, and the 1st, 3rd, 5th and 6th volunteer battalions.

About 11 o'clock on the night of the 25th the "assembly" sounded. The battalion was marched to the railway station and, along with its comrades of the Montreal brigade, proceeded to St. Armand's station *en route* for Eccles Hill, as it was reported that Colonel Smith's slender force was engaged with the Fenians. Arriving at St. Armand's the