

heroes of Batoche that no one thought of departing, and thousands of men and women cheerfully made up their minds to stay out the two hours and a half additional, and endeavored to make themselves as comfortable as possible under the circumstances. Hundreds of men and boys found resting places on the tops of the freight and passenger cars which had been left on the Esplanade, while a large number of ladies found seats on the passenger platforms of the station. At four o'clock the bands of the Queen's Own and Royal Grenadiers and the 45th (Bowmanville) band made their appearance and took up positions on the platform on the south side of the station. Here they in turn played various selections of music, each band receiving alternately warm expressions of approval in the shape of applause from the audience. A squad of police under command of Major Draper next arrived on the scene, and was posted where it was expected the train would stop, between York and Simcoe Streets. At five o'clock a deputation from the Citizens' Reception Committee, consisting of Mayor Manning and the chairmen and members of the various sub-committees, drove up in cabs. Their appearance was taken as an indication that the troops were not far off, and everybody was in a moment on the alert to catch the sound of the approaching train. It was a quarter to six o'clock, however, before the welcome sound of the engine whistle was heard in the distance, and a minute later the train steamed into the station, the engine pulling up nearly opposite York Street. The bands struck up "See the Conquering Hero Comes," and a scene ensued which almost defies description. As the scores of bronzed faces appeared at the windows of the cars, the crowd gave a series of deafening cheers, and then made a simultaneous rush for the train. Despite the efforts of the police to keep them back, they succeeded in reaching the cars. They jumped up at the windows to shake hands with the boys, some of whom they nearly pulled out of the cars in their wild excitement, waved pocket handkerchiefs, and cheered and yelled till they were hoarse. The appearance of the Midlanders spoke eloquently to the spectators of the arduous service they had undergone at the front. Their uniform, originally a bright scarlet, had been faded by the weather and rough usage to a dull, neutral tinted kind of brown, their complexion was tanned to a hue closely approaching that of the copper-colored Indian. On their heads they wore a species of skull cap improvised out of old oat-bags, while their nether garments showed huge patches sewn on at all sorts of odd angles, and of material often of an incongruous kind. All these details the quick and observant eyes of the crowd seized at a glance, which had the effect of heightening the general enthusiasm. When the excitement had somewhat abated, the Mayor and the deputation from the Citizens' Committee came forward and were introduced to Lieut.-Colonel Van Straubenzee, D.A.G., and Major Smith. His Worship, on behalf of the city, then bade the regiment welcome to Toronto, and invited them to partake of refreshment at the Albion Hotel. The offer was cordially accepted, and Lieut.-Col. Van Straubenzee formally handed over the command of the troops to Major Smith, the commanding officer of the battalion. It took but a few minutes to disembark the volunteers, the word to start was given, and amid renewed cheering they marched on to York Street in column of fours preceded by the bands of the Queen's Own, Grenadiers, the Bowmanville band, and the Mayor and civic deputation in carriages. A strong squad of police marched by the side of the volunteers to prevent the people from breaking into their ranks. On the men turning into York Street, they were astonished to see before them, as far as the eye could reach, a surging throng of men, women and children extending from sidewalk to sidewalk. Cheer after cheer rent the air as the procession moved forward, and it is no exaggeration to say that from the Walker House to the Market Place there was one continuous roll of cheering. At Wellington Street the mounted band of the Governor-General's Body Guard, which had been awaiting the procession, took its place at the head. When King Street was reached it was found that the crowd of spectators was as great as ever, the only difference being that the fair sex were represented in a much larger proportion than before. The windows of every store, office, and hotel on King Street were frames, from which smiled forth the faces of fair women. On the street itself, numbers of ladies pushed forward to the ranks and pressed into the willing hands of the boys bouquets of sweet-perfumed or bright-colored flowers, gifts which seemed to be much appreciated, judging from the manner in which they were received. When the men had discussed and thoroughly enjoyed their luncheon they were supplied with cigars, and they spent a pleasant hour in and around the hotel, smoking, and fighting their battles over again, everywhere finding willing listeners. The bands of the Grenadiers, Queen's Own Rifles, Governor-General's Body Guards, and the 45th Regiment played in front of the hotel, while the men were having dinner. At eight o'clock the regiment was re-formed, and, headed by their band, marched to the foot of East Market Street, where their train was in waiting. Again they were received with the same wild enthusiasm, and the crowds on the Esplanade around the train seemed greater than ever. Men and boys clambered on to the roof of every available shed and freight car in the neighborhood, and with their cheers almost drowned the music of the bands who played until the train left. At half-past eight the Midland Battalion left Toronto, the bands playing "The Girl I Left Behind Me" and "Auld Lang Syne" as the train moved away.

The boys expressed themselves as more than satisfied with the hearty reception given them by the Toronto people, and several of them were heard to say that this made them forget all the hardships they had undergone during the campaign. The battalion proceeded to Port Hope, where they went into camp pending the holding of the public funeral of Col. Williams, their late commanding officer.

THE 9TH BATT. (QUEBEC VOLTI-GEURS)

arrived at Owen Sound by the same steamship (the Alberta) as the Midland arrived, by special train, in Toronto at 9:30 p.m. They marched through the city from the Union Station to the C.P.R. depot at North Toronto, headed by the bands of the Queen's Own and Royal Grenadiers, and amid the utmost enthusiasm, even rockets being thrown up, though it was Sunday evening. On reaching Ottawa the following day, they not only enjoyed a brief opportunity of visiting the capital, but furnished the guard of honor to the Governor-General at the prorogation of Parliament. On their arrival at the "Ancient Capital" their greeting was hearty in the extreme, though the weather was anything but favorable for the large turn-out that took place.

The voltigeurs performed an important duty while in the North-West in overhauling the powerful Blackfeet and kindred tribes. Headquarters was established at Calgary, with detachments at McLeod and Gleichen. Escorts for convoys of provisions for Edmonton were also furnished.

THE YORK AND SIMCOE BATTALION

arrived at Port Arthur at 8 o'clock on Saturday evening, after a good run from Winnipeg. The Chief of Police had made adequate arrangements to supply the men with a good supper, after which the battalion embarked on the C. P. R. steamer Algoma, which left for Collingwood at 10 o'clock. The officers and men were victualled by the ship's company in splendid style. The run down was a very good one, the weather being all that could be desired. On Monday night, it being the last night that the officers and men of the two regiments would spend together, the evening was pleasantly spent, a concert having been carried out very efficiently. The boat reached Collingwood at midnight. At the debarkation the following morning the Battalion was met by the band of the 35th, and headed by them was marched to the skating rink; here refreshments were served, and the ladies pinned bouquets on the breasts of the officers and men. The Mayor, in an appropriate speech, welcomed the soldiers home again. The regiment left by the Northern and North-Western R. R. at 11:30 p.m., and were escorted to the station by crowds of people, who continually cheered the men. The town was most beautifully decorated, and the Collingwood Garrison Battery attended as a guard of honor on the arrival and departure of the battalion. The next stage was Barrie, which was reached about noon. Here the regiment received a perfect ovation. All the societies turned out, and preceded them in their march to the drill shed, where a good dinner was prepared. The streets were literally packed with enthusiastic people. An address was read by the Mayor, and Col. O'Brien, in a neat speech, wished the members of the 12th good-bye. Before leaving, the officers and men of the 12th presented Col. Tyrwhitt with a sword and belt, which he received through Col. Wyndham, on condition that he obtain permission to retain it from the Minister of Militia. The Sutton Company got off at Lefroy, the Sharon and Newmarket Companies at Newmarket, the Aurora Company at that place, and the remainder went on to Parkdale, where large crowds had been patiently waiting all afternoon, and the sidewalks and terraces of the subway were crowded by thousands of the expectant villagers, anxious once more to get a glimpse of the stalwart soldier-citizens of the Flowery Suburb who were returning to their homes and friends. The line of march was crowded all the way by admiring villagers, and ever and anon a ringing cheer went up that raised such echoes as probably never before floated over the placid surface of Lake Ontario. The Rangers, like all the returning troops, were done brown, and their uniforms bore ample testimony to the roughness of their campaigning. All, however, were apparently in the most robust health, and not a man of those who went away four months ago was missing. At the conclusion of their repast the men re-formed and marched back to the station, where, with the exception of the Parkdale Company, they again boarded the train. A few minutes sufficed to bring them

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