

IV.

RINK AT HALIFAX.

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THE Rinks of Canada are large and lofty buildings, much frequented as long as the winter lasts, having their floors flooded with about 10 inches of water, which is allowed to freeze for skating purposes. The ice when sufficiently cut up is flooded overnight with about half an inch of water, and long before morning forms a beautifully smooth surface for the next day.

Around the building is a boarded platform raised about a foot from the ice, with seats, stoves, and other comforts, for the lookers-on, as well as for the skaters when disposed to rest. Off the hall are well-warmed dressing-rooms, the walls being covered with little lockers, just large enough for subscribers to deposit their skates. The centre of the Rink is set apart for those able to cut figures, &c., whilst the sides are patronized by the less proficient, who content themselves with whirling round and round in a sort of never-ending procession. A regimental band usually plays twice a week, and greatly adds to the enjoyment.