

BRANTFORD.

The first annual dinner of the Dufferin Rifles Sergeants Mess took place in their mess rooms on Thursday evening, March 30th. The sergeants turned out in uniform in full numbers and the dinner was, perhaps, the best one given in the regiment. The programme of music, etc., was very enjoyable, while the speeches were given with a view to the upbuilding of national sentiment and good feeling. From the walls of their rooms hung draped flags, while the ceilings were richly draped with streamers, the red, white and blue blending.

The guests included Lieut.-Col. Jones, Major T. Harry Jones, Major W. A. Wilkes, Surgeon Harris of Dufferin Rifles, Col.-Sergt. Cooper, Queen's Own, Toronto, Staff-Sergt. Harp, 48th Highlanders, Toronto, Staff-Sergt. Bewley, 10th Royal Grenadiers, Toronto, Col.-Sergt. Skedden, 13th Batt., Hamilton, Sergt. Shillington, Col.-Sergts. Allan and Hoyman of the 7th Fusiliers, London, Sergts. Pratt and Standing of the Burford Troop of Cavalry.

After the bugle call to assemble in the dining room, before seating, Col.-Sergt. Mellish was called upon to say grace, owing to the absence of the Chaplain, Rev. R. Ashton, whose regrets were received at being absent on account of ill health.

The toast list was proceeded with, justice having been done the dinner, prepared by Ben Foster. The toast to "The Queen" was received with great enthusiasm; the toast to "Lord Dufferin, our patron," was drunk and elicited great applause. Surgeon Harris responded and eulogized the name of Dufferin and his great services to the British Empire. He also referred to the medal sent for presentation each year to the regiment for the highest scorer in the annual regimental matches.

"Our Commanding Officer and Staff" brought responses from Col. Jones, who said he was proud of the efficiency of the regiment under the hardships of having to drill in a shed without a roof. He congratulated the Sergeants on the great success of their first annual dinner, stating that they had shown themselves to be, as he believed the Sergeants were, the backbone of the regiment.

Major Jones, Major Wilkes, and Surgeon Harris also made complimentary addresses, hoping the Sergeants would still go on in the success that had attended their efforts in the past.

"The Canadian Militia" was then proposed and responded to by Staff-Sergt. Dunlop (38th Batt.) who, in a neat little speech, gave vent to the pleasure he had to belong to the Militia.

Major Jones also responded, speaking of the noble work done by the Militia in times past, down to the North-west rebellion trouble, and expressed a belief that they would, if called upon, again show what kind of material they were made of, though with the exception of some individual members the 38th had not had an opportunity to take part.

"Canada" was proposed by the chairman, and Staff-Sergt. Sharp responded, giving an eloquent speech on the pride he personally felt, and believed all should feel, at having so grand an heritage. He hoped all Canadians would be true to their native land.

"Our Brother Sergeants" was replied to by Staff-Sergt. Bewley, Grenadiers; Col.-Sergt. Cooper, Queen's Own; Staff-Sergt. Harp, 48th Highlanders; Sergt. Hayman, 7th Fusiliers; Col.-Sergt. Skedden, 13th Battalion; and Sergt. Standing of Burford Cavalry.

"The Ladies" were championed by Col.-Sergt. Mellish and Sergt. Fleming, in which the 48th Sergeant was not forgotten.

"The Press" brought responses from Mr. Reville of *The Courier*, and Mr. Walker of *The Expositor*.

"The Health of the Sergt.-Major of the 38th" who occupied the chair, was drunk with Highland honors, being proposed by Staff-Sergt. Harp of the 48th Highlanders.

The musical part of the programme was replete with choice selections. Songs were given by Sergts. Gardner, McGinnis, Ritchie and Sourbier of the Dufferin's, Sergt. Hayman of London, and Sergt. Cooper, who gave an Italian song causing roars of laughter. Recitations were given by Sergt. Pratt of Burford, Sergts. Leask and Kerr, and Major Jones of the 38th Battalion. An attractive part of the programme was the exhibition given by Major Harry Logan, the lightning drum major. Few exhibitions of this charac-

ter, either professional or amateur, which have appeared here or elsewhere to the knowledge of those present, have been given with as much skill and precision, and the performer was greeted with great applause.

The whole affair passed off without a hitch; and great credit is due to the committee who had the dinner in charge.

BATHAM.

NORTH WEST MOUNTED POLICE.

The Mounted police detachment is to be withdrawn from Edmonton on April 1st.

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A determined attempt to commit suicide was made by Vet. Corp. Macdonell in the barracks recently. It appears that Macdonell got into some trouble and was booked for the orderly room in consequence. Rather than face that ordeal he rashly swallowed five ounces of laudanum. Dr. Ayles was immediately summoned and with great difficulty managed to bring him round, although for a time it was nip and tuck with his patient.—*Macleod Gazette*.

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We are glad to see that Inspector Snyder has recovered from his recent illness sufficiently to be out again.

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His present visit to the Old Country is the first that Supt. Jarvis has paid for 25 years. His destination is Brighton.

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Inspector Howard, of Fort Macleod, has arrived at Calgary for duty. Supt. Steele will leave Macleod shortly on a two month's leave of absence.

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Supt. Griesbach is in charge of the post at Calgary in the absence of Supt. Jarvis. He will spend part of his time there and part at his own post at Fort Saskatchewan.

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Col. French, who was the first Commissioner of the N.W.M.P., and who has since been in command of the local forces in Queensland, has been recommended for brevet rank "for distinguished services of an unexceptional nature."

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Government have granted the Westminster Rifle Association the use of a piece of land between New Westminster and Vancouver, for a rifle range. It is close to the tram line, and very suitable for the purpose.

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The Mohawk Indians at Deseronto are, it is said, about to organize a corps of Mounted Infantry which will probably be incorporated in the Militia. They propose to style the corps the Canadian Mounted Royalists.

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Through the efforts of Mr. Jas. Stevenson, M. P., the town of Peterborough, Ont., is to have two Russian cannon to decorate one of its parks. The big guns, which will be of historic interest, are the gift of the Government; and at the Council meeting held on 27th inst. a resolution was passed agreeing to place in position and maintain the guns, and surrender them to the Government authorities if demanded. The resolution also thanked Mr. Stevenson for securing the gifts for the town.

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Col. Gray, brigade major of military district No. 2, was at Welland, Ont., recently inspecting the armouries of No. 5 Co. of 44th Batt, and the Welland troop of the 2nd Dragoons. He found everything in good order. He was accompanied by Capt. Ferguson, of the Welland troop.

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We understand that it is the intention of Messrs. Duncan & Alex. Macdonald to present to the non-com. officers and men of the Military School, St. Johns, a substantial recognition of their appreciation of the corps on the occasion of the fire which recently reduced to ashes their large pottery. Although heavy losers, the Messrs. Macdonald feel that their loss would have been still greater had it not been for the exertions of these men and they are unwilling that their services should be passed over unrecognized.