

ments and arms then supplied were those used in the war of 1812, issued to the volunteers in 1837-38, and of course, neither ornamental nor serviceable; the corps preferred to procure their own outfit, which they did at an expense to each member of nearly \$70.

It was some little time before the Enfield rifles were issued to the force, which were much more desirable and useful than the "old Brown Bess;" later on the Enfield was replaced by the breech-loading "Snider," and the Government provided the outfit, with the latest improved arms; a number of the finest Martini rifles were supplied to every shooting regiment. Sixty-four (64) were the number of men allotted to each company.

The corps was fortunate in securing the services of Sergt. John Tomkins of the R. C. Rifles as drill instructor, and as the company drilled twice a week it soon attained a knowledge of arms and exactness that was not surpassed by any company in the force. In the first year of its existence, three of its members obtained commissions in the Imperial army—Mr. Fred. Parker in the 97th Regiment, Mr. Bent, C.E., Captain in the Engineers of the Turkish contingent, and Mr. John Low, of this city, who joined the 15th Regiment of Foot, and retired after a service of eighteen years as captain.

Capt. Lyman of the Rangers was offered a company, and Lieut. Hanson a Lieutenancy in the Hundredth Regiment on its organization in this city, and many of the members of the company obtained commissions in various volunteer regiments as they were organized; various staff appointments were filled from its ranks, most notably Lieut.-Col. Macpherson of the Headquarters Staff at Ottawa.

On the formation of the Prince of Wales Regiment of ten companies the Rangers were merged into the new corps, becoming No. 1 Company; the regiment received its name from H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, who visited Montreal in August, 1860; the late Lieut.-Col. Wily was the first commander, and under his superior drill and discipline, it soon attained the first rank in the militia force.

And now thirty-eight years since the formation of the company, there remain nearly thirty of the original members living who meet once a year to talk over old times and look one another in the face.

The following are the names of the surviving members:—R. G. Starke, Ensign J. W. Hanson, John Macpherson, T. F. Blackwood, J. W. Britt, John Low, E. Beaudry, R. L. Gault, R. Forsyth, G. E. Starnes, M. Bourret, T. D. Hood, Capt. Lyman, F. Scholes, John Pope, Malcolm Morison, J. H. Wood, L. A. Dufresne, C. Nelson, W. L. Haldimand, G. W. Stephens, Richard Thomas, W. Farrell, J. McLean and G. B. Fraser.

Some of the militia commissions above referred to which were granted to members of the company were as follows:—Capt. Lyman, Ensign Hanson and Pte. Macpherson became Lieut.-Colonels; Pte. Wily, a Major; Lieut. Blackwood, Corp. Beaudry, Sergt. Scholes, Privates Dufresne, Wilson and Farrell, captains; and Ensign Starke, Privates Starnes and Stephens, lieutenants. Private Britt removed to the United States and entered its military service on the breaking out of the civil war; he rose to the rank of colonel.

The official authorization of the establishment of the corps appears as follows in the *Canadian Gazette* of 1st September, 1855:

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER NINE, LOWER CANADA.

CITY OF MONTREAL.

The formation is authorised of a Rifle Company, to be styled the First Volunteer Militia Rifle Company of Montreal. The strength of this company will be sixty-three privates and usual officers and N. C. officers.

The officers will be as follows:

Captain, Theodore Lyman.

Lieutenant, J. W. Haldimand.

Ensign, J. E. Malhiot.

It may be noted that on the 29th of the same month the Second Volunteer Rifle Company of Montreal was gazetted, officered by John Fletcher as captain, John Lambert as lieutenant, and Duncan McNaughton as ensign; all three officers being transferred from the same ranks in the Montreal Fire Brigade, which at that time must have been a semi-military organization.

## REGIMENTAL NOTES.

### TORONTO.

The inclement weather of the past few weeks has retarded the drill of the three regiments. The attendance while large, has evidently suffered from this cause. The 48th Highlanders are working as hard as beavers and from the little battalion drill they practised a big change can be noticed from the form they displayed last fall. Both the Queen's Own and Grenadiers have devoted all of their time to company drill, the detail of which has been given out a few days prior to the parade, and both show that the time has not been idly spent. The want of a suitable parade ground is greatly felt, the limited space of Upper Canada College being severely taxed at every parade, and although the "Kilties" tried on Friday night to hold a march past the smallness of the ground did not make their attempt very successful.

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The Sergeants' Mess of the 48th Highlanders have an interesting relic of the Crimea and one on which they set great store. It is a sporran which was worn by Pipe-Sergt. Ronald Graham of the 42nd Black Watch, and who was killed in action at Alma. The sporran was presented by Sergt. J. Graham, of No. 1 Co., 48th Highlanders.

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The initial Musical and Dramatic Entertainment given by the New Fort Dramatic Club on Monday, 17th April, was highly successful and the following programme was given in a manner that was thoroughly well enjoyed by the large number present, and among whom the different city corps were well represented. At a few minutes after eight the programme as below was entered upon:

#### PART I.

Overture, "Emergency," Orchestra and Troupe; song, "I've Gwine Back to Dixie," Pte. W. Notley; comic song, "The Simple Pimple," Colour-Sergt. Galloway; song, "The Silent Toast," Lieut. J. H. Laurie; song, "I'm a Waiting," Lieut. Pirie; comic song, selected, T. W. Baker; song, "Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep," Pte. W. Restall; comic song, "Drill ye Tarriers Drill," by T. W. Baker and members of the Troupe; song and dance, "Angelina," by Jack Pratt Grand contortion act and feats of strength, by Pte. Jas. Greer. Specialties, by T. W. Baker, comedian.

Negro burlesque, entitled "Massa O. Tello and Dars de Money," introducing choice selections from Shakespeare.

Black Patti (The Famous Tenor) . . . . . Colour-Sergt. Cooper  
Enery Hirving (The Great Tragedian) . . . . . Staff-Serg. Donnelly  
Manager of Opera House . . . . . Bug.-Sergt. Woods  
Policemen . . . . . Colour-Sergts Lennox & Worthy

#### PART II.

The Screaming Farce "The Area Belle."

Penelope (The Servant) . . . . . Miss Rose Davis  
Mrs. Croaks (The Mistress) . . . . . Miss Maude Davis  
Tosser (In the Guards) . . . . . Colour-Sergt. Galloway  
Pitcher (In the Police) . . . . . Pte. W. Restall  
Walker Chalks (The Milkman) . . . . . Sergt. Butcher

Musical Director, Bug.-Major Forder; Manager, Corporal Bloxam; Secretary, Q. M. S. Borland; Orchestra, Lance-Corp. Farrell, Ptes. Forder, Shelton, Tingman, Taylor and Liddell.

The Negro Burlesque was especially good and the Screaming Farce entitled "The Area Belle," convulsed the audience time and again and brought an exceedingly bright and witty programme to a close. It is expected that a repetition will follow in a short time.

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The Q. O. R. Revolver Association are anxious to arrange matches with any associations or regiments at 25 yard ranges and under the rules governing the D. R. A. Letters sent to the Sec.-Treas., Ontario Chambers, will receive prompt attention; and while I am on matches I hear that the sergeants of the Q. O. R. would like to shoot a telegraph match at 200, 400 and 500 yards, any number a side over twenty men, at an early date.

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