

Alex. Forbes, 75 years of age, died lately at Belleville, he was a sergeant in the gailant Black Watch. He was severely wounded at Alma, and was left in the field for dead.

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Staff-Sergeant Boutelier, "A" Battery, R.C.A., Sergeant-Major Morgans' R.M.C., and his 13 year old son Ernest, gave an exhibition at Campbellford on the 20th December, under the auspices of the Foresters.

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Sergeant-Major Morgans has been appointed instructor in calisthenics and exercises at the Young Ladies College, Kingston.

STIENSALES.

TORONTO.

In reviewing the work of the past one cannot but help acknowledging that Toronto is fast becoming the military centre of the Dominion, and it is doubtful if as much interest is taken in military matters in any of the districts as that evinced in District No. 2.

Of one thing there is a certainty, and that is that there is no city in the Dominion that maintains three stronger or more efficient regiments, and especially in the face of such poor encouragement as is annually meted out to them. The spirit of rivalry was, no doubt, quickened by the formation of the 48th Highlanders, and no doubt it is in a measure due to their organization that more drill was performed this year than ever before, and while little or no battalion drill of any consequence was taken up by any of the regiments, I venture to say that the officers and non-commissioned officers are better grounded in squad and company drill than ever before.

I intend in this letter to endeavour, as well as possible, to give a review of the season of 1892, and the first subject will be the organizing and formation of the 48th Highlanders.

Nearly two years ago a few Scotchmen conceived the idea of trying to form a Scotch regiment, and the more it was discussed the easier the task seemed to be. Steps were at once taken, and the little hall near the corner of Sullivan and Huron Sts. became the rendezvous of the Kilties to be. The small band of enthusiasts soon grew and even the most sanguine were surprised at the number who had agreed to cast in their lot with the proposed regiment. Permission once granted from Ottawa no time was lost, and at a meeting held in St. Andrew's Hall the first official steps were taken in forming the new regiment by Lt.-Col. Otter D. A. G. and Capt. Macdougall, who had been appointed adjutant pro tem. Capt. Davidson, late of the Grenadiers, was selected as the lucky commander and soon the Kilties to be were Kilties in reality, striving with might and main to fit themselves for an early appearance. Squads of men were sworn in every drill night by Lt.-Col. Davidson, and at once placed in charge of Capt. Macdougall and an efficient staff of instructors from No. 2 Co., R. S. I., under whom rapid progress was made. By the time the clothing arrived from the old country the regiment was in fairly good shape and their first appearance was awaited with considerable curiosity by the people of Toronto, the majority of whom always take considerable interest, one way and another, in their citizen soldiers; and when the day at length arrived when their first church parade was held, the appearance of the streets reminded one of the return of the troops from the North-West. The regiment paraded in the Queen's Park, and, headed by the band of the Queen's Own and Grenadiers, as well as their own pipers and drummers, marched via College, Yonge and King streets to St. Andrew's Church, where their Chaplain, the Rev. J. Macdonell, awaited them and from whom they had their first sermon. Their next appearance was on the 22nd May, when they again attended Divine Service in St. Andrews, this time wearing the bonnets for the first time, and on the morning of the 24 May they paraded to receive their colours at the hands of His Excellency the Governor-General. On this occasion they were joined by the 13th Batt. of Hamilton, who visited Toronto to assist at the ceremony, and in the review which followed the Kilties carried out their part very creditably.

Drill was carried on by most of the companies and the non-commissioned officers during the summer and at the end of this year's drill the commanding officer had reason to feel satisfied at the progress made. Close on 400 men answered at roll-call, and on this occasion the brass band

paraded for the first time. The brass and bugle bands as well as the pipers and drummers are in a very efficient state and both Ambulance and Signal Corps have been started. The regiment has some good rifle shots among its members, notably Major Macdonald, Adjutant of Bisley Team, 1892, Capt. W. Macdonald, Lieut. Orchard and Staff-Sergeant Harp, besides many who will be well to the front at the close of the season of 1893.

The first guard of honour supplied by the the regiment was on the occasion of the visit of Lord Stanley to St. Andrew's Ball, the guard being commanded by Capt. Robertson, Lieuts. Donald, Ramsay and McLean.

For the present the Regiment occupies the old Upper Canada College and will no doubt use these buildings until the new Drill Hall is ready.

The Officers are already in possession of the choicest mess rooms in the city and last 'Hallow E'en gave a very successful smoking party to the officers of the city regiments. They have decided to hold two mess nights a month during the winter season.

The 24th of May trips, this year, of both the Queen's Own and Grenadiers could hardly be called successful, rain spoiling the greater part of the programme arranged.

The Queen's Own Rifles visited Owen Sound and the Grenadiers, Windsor, it being the day on which this latter thriving place changed its name from town to city. The receptions given to both regiments were most cordial and nothing occurred at either of the places to mar the enjoyment of the trip or to wear out the welcome of a future visit.

The District Camp at Niagara was from all points the most successful of any yet held there. The weather was all that could be desired and the cases of sickness very few. Major-General Herbert visited the camp shortly after its formation and remained almost until the end, making as the result, a rigid inspection of everything, and in some cases, sending home those who did not satisfy him as to physique and stamina.

Shooting, this season, has had a decided impetus and it was a cause for great regret that owing to the action of the City Hall officials, the latter part of the season was marked by inactivity among rifle shots.

Fortunately the League Matches were finished, but only just in time, and at the expense of the competitors, who were time and time again called on to put up with discomforts and delays caused by the parties engaged in dismantling the old range and building for the race track for the Exhibition Grounds.

The Queen's Own head the League for twenty, thirty, and forty men teams and come near the front for ten men. The Grenadiers made a very poor showing in the League this season, but redeemed themselves by their grand work at Montreal, where they carried off the Carslake Trophy from all comers. They were considerably weakened during the League competitions by the absence of Staff-Sergeant Dent and Corpl. Windatt, who were with the team at Bisley, as were also Lieut. Mitchell and Staff-Sergt. Simpson of the 12th Battalion. The delay in getting up the new range was responsible for not holding the annual meeting of the Ontario Rifle Association, and this was no doubt the cause of the poor showing made by many of the Toronto shots at the Dominion Rifle Association, as, for a full month previous to the meeting they were unable to fire a shot and had to compete entirely without practice.

The Lake Shore Ranges, will when finished, be the most complete in the Dominion, and the arrangement is of such a nature that a great number of competitors can be rushed through in a comparatively short time.

The distance from the city is to a certain extent a great drawback, but with a fairly efficient train service this ought to be easily remedied. The long distance ranges will be a great boon to many and I really hope and think that the day is not far off when more attention will be paid to the 800 and 900 yards shooting and less to the 200 and 400 yards. The arming of the permanent corps is, let us hope, but the initial step towards arming the whole force, or at least the city battalions with the Martini and to gauge from the opinions