

getting to be an old story with the Toronto people, but I should think in view of the interest taken in the corps engaged by the force generally a pretty full report of the event should be interesting. I will cut down The Globe's account of it.

It was Parkdale that was threatened with the dire extremities of storm and sack from the force that wore "England's cruel red," as the Irish members of the Queen's Own put it. And it was the same Queen's Own who, in the extreme south part of High Park, made their final stand and stood off the embattled thousands of the scarlet brigade. Lieut.-Col. Hamilton's brigade orders issued to his officers put the situation concisely:—

"From information received," these confidential instructions run, "it is believed that a column of the enemy is moving eastward from Lambton for the purpose of trying to force an entrance into Toronto. On account of natural and other obstacles it is impossible for them to carry out this design except by entering at the junction of Roncesvalles avenue and Queen street." And accordingly it was in the fastness of High Park that the green-coated battalion prepared to meet the assault, and it was from Lambton and by the south of Toronto Junction that No. 2 Company, R. C. R., the Grenadiers, the 13th of Hamilton and the 48th Highlanders, headed by the Dragoons, took up their march. It was along a line a mile and a quarter long, away up around Bloor street, that the two armies came into conflict, it was southward through the ravines and roads of the park that the tide of battle rolled, and it was near the lake shore road that the Queen's Own made their final and successful stand.

Honors are pretty equal. The attacking force can boast of the celerity with which they drove the outpost lines down a mile and a half, and of the attack they made at the south of Grenadier Pond, driving right at the base of the defenders' position; and the defence can remind their late opponents that their numbers were exactly half those of the assailants, that their final position was almost impregnable, and that on the right they cleverly led on the assailants, inducing them to waste much ammunition and tricked them into blundering against a strong and entrenched position, filled with fresh troops, who wiped off in short order four companies who were ruled out by the umpires as having been exposed to a fire which, in real warfare, would have annihilated them. At all events, no hard feelings were exhibited at the garrison dinner in the evening, except towards Webb's good fare, for which a day of tramping on very light lunches had been a marvelously good preparation. The sham battle, the review and the evening festivities passed off excellently and have taught the citizen soldiery some drill and have given many spectators an enjoyable outing.

It was a drawn battle, said Gen. Herbert at the close of the day. But if it was drawn, Parkdale was protected, and so the defending force can rest satisfied. Summarized, the General's criticisms of the movements, delivered after the garrison dinner, were to the effect that the battle was undecided. Faults were committed

on both sides, he said. The Queen's Own attempted too much for 607 men, and held at first a position a mile and a quarter long and a mile and a half deep. They were thus too scattered and could not concentrate a sufficient force at any one point where strength might be necessary. The attacking force, on the other hand, delivered its attacks in a disconnected and desultory fashion. There were three columns of them, corresponding to the three regiments, and their march was not timed so as to strike the enemy simultaneously, nor was there any good connection between the attacks, which were practically independent. Instead of assailing all at the same moment, the 13th in the centre, divided into two columns, delivered the first attack and were at first repulsed by the defenders. On the right, the Highlanders' column attacked at the lake shore road and had the first half battalion repulsed by three companies of the Queen's Own; then the second half battalion assailed and were repulsed by the three companies. On the left the Grenadiers and No. 2 company R. C. R. had another independent fight. The lesson of the whole, he said, was greater concentration in fighting.

Such being the strategic outline of the field day, it only remains to say in preface that the turnout was excellent, the total force being 1,945, composed of Royal Canadian Dragoons, 26; Governor-General's Body Guards, 18; No. 2 company Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry, 62; Queen's Own, 607; 10th Royal Grenadiers, 455; 13th Battalion, 440, and the 48th Highlanders, 337. The weather was excellent for field work, being clear and chilly with a strong wind blowing from the west. It was all right for men on the move, but turned decidedly colder in the afternoon and the review at the Exhibition grounds was conducted in slight snow flurries, to the accompaniment of a piercing wind off the lake and chattering teeth. The crowds were very large and interfered very much with the progress of the manoeuvres, at once confusing the scouts and advertising the presence of every picket. When active hostilities began they swarmed in great numbers about the men, and often a hot fire would be poured into a thin line of men, around whom were ten times their number of spectators, who were everywhere around them except immediately in front of the muzzles of their rifles. There must have been several thousands of them, and they enjoyed their portion of the battle more than did the military. The whole affair was enjoyable to all concerned and remarkably instructive in the art of outpost war.

Major-General Herbert acted as umpire-in-chief. Lieut.-Col. Otter accompanying him as D. A. G. The other umpires were Lieut.-Col. Turnbull, R.C.D.; Lieut.-Col. F. C. Denison, G.G.B.G.; Lieut.-Col. Munro, 22nd; Lieut.-Col. Funn, G.G.B.G.; Lt.-Col. Wayling, 12; Lieut.-Col. King, Welland Field Battery; Lieut.-Col. Starke, 3rd Victoria Rifles; Lieut.-Col. Strathy, 5th Royal Scots; Major Sims, 3rd Victoria Rifles; Major Mead, T.F.B.; Capt. Macdougall, R. C. R.; Captain Hendrie, Hamilton Field Battery.

The ground on which the battle was fought was one well calculated in many

ways to test the mettle of the volunteers. A succession of ravines and streets running in different directions without any apparent object, of which even the policeman on duty did not know the names, or where they came from, or where they eventually led to, is the great feature of High Park topography. Marshes were not absent, and more than one detachment of men got their boots, and, for that matter, their trousers too, pretty well dampened in them. The hill, covered with trees, and sometimes with almost perpendicular sides, were tiresome to navigate, as many a civilian who tried to find new and original short cuts realized to his cost when he persistently turned up at the spot he left to follow the firing. The complicated nature of the scenery and its entire want of organization of any kind known to modern surveying rendered it difficult in the extreme to keep up communication between the different arms of the attack. The defence, being more compact in their formation, did not experience the same difficulty.

The crowd interfered with the centre and right more than with the left of the attack. They swarmed around the right especially so that it was sometimes difficult for the men to keep from shooting off an occasional head. The Grenadiers were much more fortunate in this respect than the 13th and Highlanders, as the heavy firing which occurred at the centre before the left attacked attracted the people in that direction, and left the Bloor street end fairly free.

It was 7.55 o'clock when the Queen's Own fell in at the Armory and began the preliminary work of proving companies, numbering off, and dividing into half companies and sections—preliminary precautions peculiarly necessary for such work as was on hand. The work was hurried though, and at 8.30 precisely the regiment moved off, marching along King street directly to the junction of King and Queen streets at Roncesvalles avenue. The march was chilly and long, and it was 9.45 when the objective corner was reached. There were two battalions of them, and the battalion commanders were in charge of them. Consequently Col. Hamilton did not feel obliged to accompany them along this preliminary march. Thus it was that at 9.30 a trusty trolley car bore him swiftly along Queen street to the rendezvous. Proudly he dismounted and ascended the horse which some menial had brought out for him; and then impatiently did he wait for his brigade of defenders. At 9.20 the cycle corps came wheeling up, headed by Color-Sergt. Langton. They drew up in line by the hotel, piled their machines, and stood easy, fingering the murderous "British Bulldog" revolvers which they wore. Soon after Gen. Herbert, accompanied by Capt. Streatfeild, A.D.C.; Lieut.-Col. Otter and Lt. Col. Turnbull rode by. Then came the Body Guards, sixteen rank and file, under Capt. Fleming and Lieut. Peters. Among them were three or four U.C.C. boys. Next came the body of the Queen's Own. As they drew up ready for action they were of the following strength:—

Field officers, 4; staff officers, 3; captains, 9; subalterns, 14; staff-sergeants, 12; sergeants, 38; ambulance corps, 21; signal