

and it was from no fault of mine, as Colonel Van Straubenzee can tell you, that we didn't succeed. We were, it is true, disappointed in not getting into any of the engagements, but still we were fortunate in having a very important position assigned to us. So, resigning ourselves to fate, we kept watch and ward on the arch-rebel Riel and his councillors in case there should be any attempt at rescue, as well as serving to keep in check by our presence any rising of the Indians on the reserves a little farther north of us on the Qu'Appelle river. As we lay at night in our blankets, feeling—as one of the men expressed it—every now and then for a “bit of the soft side of the prairie to lie on,” with nothing to disturb the silence of the night in that great lone land but the changing of our sentries and the loud shout of the Mounted police patrols close by, as they told off their numbers and finished up their rounds with the reassuring “all's well”—our thoughts would wander from where our hopes and aspirations were, at the front, to the dear ones we had left at home. And, as I know now, but was unaware of then—many an anxious thought and many a weary care were concealed under a calm exterior—not for themselves, but for those dependent upon them whom they had left behind. The spirit of the Anglo-Saxon is not dead amongst us. Slumbering it may be under the work and cares of every day life, but when occasion calls it will always be found in the future as in the past, that both the men and the women of our race are willing to sacrifice much when duty calls upon them so to do. That spirit has never been wanting in the Canadian militia from its earliest records, as I have endeavored to show, until now. How is it to be in the future? that is a question for our younger men to answer; that they will be worthy of their forefathers I have little doubt. There is a sturdy spirit of endurance, manliness and pluck permeating the youth of this country, and while upon them falls the responsibility of maintaining a greater inheritance, I feel very confident that they will be worthy of the trust, and be able to maintain, inviolate, this large and important possession of the vast empire of Great Britain.

THE END.

### Cavalry Bridles.

WE have lately entered a protest against the faults of the present horse equipment of our cavalry in the most practical way of protesting, i.e. by suggesting something better. Our suggestions on this important subject would be incomplete were we to offer only a new saddle without also bringing to notice an improved form of bridle and head-collar. The present head-gear has long been recognized as too heavy, cumbersome, and complicated; and after investigating in many directions, from the heavy and motley arrangement of the Mexicans to the simple noseband of the Arabs, we are most favorably inclined to a form of bridle invented by Col. Ghis, of the 10th French Hussars. Its main advantages over the present form of bridle are:—1. Its lightness and simplicity; 2. Its easy method of adjustment; 3. Its economy. The chief novelty in the new bridle is that it is not encumbered with the nose-band and cheek-pieces of the present head-collar, and that the bit and bridoon are both attached to the same head-piece; and are adjusted or removed by the use of one buckle. The entire head-collar consists merely of a brow-band, head-piece, and throat-lash, all connected on the temples by semi-circular leather-covered D's. Over this arrangement goes the bit bridle-head, similar to the one now in use, with the exception that it has a semi-circular D on each cheek, above the corners of the mouth, by which the chains of the snaffle are attached to it.

The head-piece is a leather band, of which the back half is of double thickness, and to the upper layer of this the temple D's are sewn. A strap and button are fixed on the top to secure the bit in its place at that point. The brow-band is similar to the present one; it is attached to the D at each temple, and is fitted with a small strap and stud near each temple to keep the cheek-pieces of the bit headstall in their places. The throat-lash joins the head-piece and brow-band at the temple D's, and is similar to the present one in make and appearance. It is fitted with a running D or ring, to which head-rope is attached. The head-rope should have a strong spring hook on each end. A deal of time which is now lost in making fast the head-ropes of horses would thereby be saved. A dressing of Norwegian tar is recommended for the head-rope as a safeguard against both damp and dry rot, and as a means of keeping it always soft and flexible. The inventor has had one head-rope thus prepared, in use for the past three years, both in the stable and out of doors, and it has not required a fresh dressing during that time. The bridle-head is similar to the bit headstall now in use, with the exception that the cheek-buckle is set on the reverse way, i.e. with the tongue towards the ground and on the long strap. This is so arranged in order that when unbuckling the cheek-buckle to take the bits out of the horse's mouth without unbridling altogether, the soldier can employ both hands on the bit and leave the headstall to take care of itself, as the buckle on the end of it will prevent its slipping through the temple tab,

and will keep it practically in its place on the horse's head till the man is ready to re-affix it to the bit. The bits and chains should be of galvanised iron. The present steel bit takes an hour daily out of the soldier's time for its burnish, and its constant cleaning has a fatal effect on the reins at their most important point, i.e. where they are attached to the rings of the bits. The bit should be attached to its headstall by a buckle and not sewn; it can then be removed from the horse's mouth, leaving the bridoon there, a most valuable point on a long or fast march. The advantages of the proposed bridle as regards lightness and simplicity are at once apparent. The regulation bridle in fair use weighs about 6¼ lbs.—the one now described is 3½ lbs., and does not come into so many heating points of contact with the horse's head,—details which have their importance in the course of a long or hot day's work. The new bridle gives somewhat less surface to be cleaned by the soldier. A horse with his head collar on can be bridled in the new way in half the time that is taken under the present system. In the former both bit and bridoon are placed simultaneously in the horse's mouth, and the headstall is then simply passed on to his head, and secured there by the three tabs and studs. This simple method is of immense value in the case of a hurried turn-out in the dark, etc. For the purpose of watering or feeding, the cheek-buckle of the bit headstall is undone, and the bit allowed to slip out of the mouth; the strap is then again drawn up and buckled in such a way that the bits are hanging behind the lower jaw. They are thus ready to hand to be slipped into the horse's mouth in a moment should the necessity arise, as on outpost duty, etc. The proposed bridle is readily fitted to horses of most varied sizes without the saddler's aid. This is a point to which great importance is attached in France, where, in the course of the last war, it was found, on requisitioning horses for reinounts, that a large proportion of them were too big to get into the bridles issued for them. The present regulation bridle could, without much difficulty, be converted into one on the principle of that just described and possessed of its chief points of excellence.—*Broad Arrow.*

### Unveiling of the Brown Memorial.

THE memorial erected in the Central Park, Peterborough, by the residents of that town, in honor of Capt. E. T. Brown, of Boulton's Scouts, killed at Batoche, was unveiled on Wednesday of last week, by Major-Gen. Middleton, with appropriate ceremony and in the presence of a vast gathering of the residents. Prior to the unveiling of the memorial, the annual inspection of the 57th battalion took place. Having received the major-general, who was accompanied by Lieut.-Col. Villiers, D.A.G., and Capt. Wise, A.D.C., at the drill shed, the battalion, headed by the band, marched to the Central Park, where the inspection was to take place. The *Peterborough Review* says: The following officers of the battalion were present:—Lieut.-Col. J. Z. Rogers, Major Grover, Major Bell, Qr.-Mr. Millar, P.-Mr. Howard, Surg. Kincaid, Surg. O'Gorman, Capt. Edwards and Lieut. Dennistoun of No. 1 company, Capt. Langford and Lieut. Lee of No. 2, Capt. Rogers and Lieut. Peck of No. 3, Capt. Bursdall and Lieut. Hill of No. 4, Capt. Burke and Lieut. Brennan of No. 5, and Capt. Cooper and Lieut. Hammond of No. 6. The battalion having been put through various movements, as well as the manual and firing exercises, by Col. Rogers and Maj. Grover, were formed in a square around the memorial, while the North-West veterans, all wearing their medals, were drawn up into line on the platform. These were: Capt. Burke, Lieut. Brennan, Sergts. Hannah, Graham and Reynolds, Pts. Crowe, Breckinridge, Crowter, Gray, of the old G company; and Cook, late of French's scouts. Lieut.-Col. Rogers read the following address:

*Major-Gen. Sir Fred. D. Middleton, K.C.M.G., C.B.:*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—The object of our meeting together this day is to do honor to the memory of Capt. Edward Templeton Brown, who gave his life as a sacrifice for his country, and in his name to do honor to the Canadian volunteers engaged in the suppression of the late rebellion. When, in the Spring of 1885, the telegraph flashed eastward the news that the traitor Riel had a second time stirred up an insurrection, that he had exceeded his former crime by inciting to murder and rapine the lawless and uncontrollable Indian tribes, that helpless women and children were at the mercy of savages, the hot blood stirred in every true son of Canada. In such an emergency it was to the volunteers we had to look, not to a force of professional soldiers. Our young men, whose yearly drilling had been sneered at by some as a sort of boyish holiday parade, just such young men as are being inspected this day, were suddenly found to be our only bulwark. Their ready response to the toilsome marches, the hardships borne without murmuring, the eagerness to go forward, the coolness and bravery when face to face with the foe, the gallantry of the final struggle, are now all matters of history, and well may we be proud that on the first occasion when our citizen soldiers, unaided by regular troops, were to meet the enemy they proved themselves worthy of the race to which they belonged. Well too, for them was it, and well for us, that at such a crisis we had at the head of the Canadian militia the gallant soldier, whose personal courage was a model for his men, whose skill and judgment knew how to make the most of the material at his command, who combined that prudence which neither risked defeat nor needlessly sacrificed the lives, with the generalship which, when the proper time had come, could strike a decisive blow. Who so fitting a person to unveil a monument to him whom we desire