

William Fahey, late of the Q.O.R., who made a very felicitous speech. The remainder of the evening was spent in social intercourse.

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The visit of the Governor-General gave a bit of a fillip to soldiering here last week. Number One Troop of the Duke of Connaught's Own Canadian Hussars furnished escorts upon the occasion of His Excellency's arrival and his official visits down town. The men looked well, but it must have been a great strain upon the men to turn out so much. There should be another city troop of cavalry and the two organized into an independent squadron. The Prince of Wales Rifles turned out a smart guard of eighty to receive His Excellency at the station, and the Royal Scots furnished three splendid guards on Tuesday. Captain Clark commanded the cavalry, Captain Porteous the P. W. R., and Captain Cameron the Highlanders.

The military writer of a Montreal weekly paper has this to say about the reorganization of the city infantry corps: "The Prince of Wales Regiment is hard at work preparing for its annual inspection, and that event promises to be a most satisfactory one. The men are turning out very well, as attendance at drills in Montreal go, but I regret to say that is not saying much when the fine drill parades of the Toronto corps are remembered. The truth of the matter is that our regiments are too numerous and have too small establishments. It is unreasonable to expect every man in a busy city like this to get down every drill night. There is a small regimental parade and companies are mixed up, men being put under strange company officers and non-coms. They do not like it, and many of them make it a point of staying away except when there is a certainty of being a big parade, on band nights, etc. If companies and battalions were larger, there would always be enough men down at drill to form respectable battalions and to go ahead with interesting work.

Really the only satisfactory way out of the difficulty would be an amalgamation of some of the corps. To start with the Prince of Wales Rifles. They are proud of their distinction of First Battalion, but at the same time they are not proud of the rifle uniform. They recently applied for authority to adopt the Grenadier Guards uniform. The uniform of the Sixth Fusiliers is nearly the same thing, and the members of that battalion would perhaps not object to a loss of their distinctive numeral so long as their uniform and distinctive title went to the new regiment. An amalgamation of the First and the Sixth might be effected under the title The First Prince of Wales Fusiliers, or something of the kind. Of course, both regiments are proud of their own individual records, but neither would be lost by such an amalgamation. There is no denying that a fine ten company regiment could be organized in this way, and maintained too at a less comparative cost to the country. The 65th and 85th might be combined in a similar manner.

For obvious reasons it would be hard to effect amalgamations with either the Royal Scots or the Victoria Rifles, but it would really increase their efficiency and keep up the strength of the brigade to add two companies to each of them, making up the loss of four companies sustained by the formation of two regiments from four. After the adoption of this scheme the Montreal Infantry Brigade would consist of the First Prince of Wales Fusiliers, ten companies, Third Victoria Rifles, eight companies, Fifth Royal Scots, eight companies, 65th Battalion, twelve companies. I might say that this scheme of reorganizing the Montreal Infantry corps has been under discussion in the militia department for some time. The scheme outlined above has been elaborated by a well-known authority on militia matters and submitted to the powers that be, and local militiamen need not be surprised if some day this scheme or one something like it takes tangible shape.

A retired officer of the Sixth Fusiliers writes:—"I am surprised to see that there is any question of sinking the identity of the gallant old Sixth in a new bric-a-brac battalion to be known as the First Prince of Wales Fusiliers and formed by an amalgamation of the Prince of Wales Rifles and the Sixth Fusiliers. Why should the Sixth, of all other regiments, be robbed of its distinctive numeral in this way? If they want fewer regiments and bigger ones, the Sixth, as the most efficient regiment in the city, has the right to be the base of them, but why of all others rob it of its numeral? The results of the annual inspections are not yet announced, nor in fact, are they all over. If they are bound to reduce the number of Montreal regiments by one French and one English regiment, let them take the figures of the inspecting officers, disband the two least efficient regiments and then divide the twelve disbanded companies among the remaining regiments. Old Sixth men are anxious to be able to recognize their dear old regiment when they see it. Why should the Sixth Fusiliers be singled out for amalgamation, and the Victoria Rifles and Royal Scots be left alone?"

HALIFAX.

H. M. S. Mohawk arrived on Saturday night, Sept 16th, from Montreal.

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The Garrison regatta took place on Saturday afternoon, 16th Sept., on the North West Arm. It was attended by Admiral Sir John Hopkins and Lady Hopkins, Lieut.-Gov. Daly, the officers of the army and navy, and quite a crowd of other civil and military persons of more or less distinction. Most of the people gathered along the bank of the Arm to witness the races, but those who occupied the flotilla of steam, sail, and oar-craft that moved hither and thither formed a large fraction of the total attendance. Oaklands was the rallying point of the occasion. The landing was situated there and also the King's Regiment band, which played popular music throughout the afternoon. The regatta, it may be stated, was experimental, and as such it was reasonably successful in its different phases.

and terminated to the satisfaction of all concerned. No accident occurred, delays between events were not of long duration. The sun shone pleasantly, the wind was chilly, but did not greatly ruffle the water, and finally the majority of the entries filled, and the contestants all vied one against the other for supremacy.

Race No. 1 was for five and six oared gigs. Course three miles. Boats representing the R.A., R.E., and H.G.A. contested. The last-named got the start and immediately after broke the bow oar. Another oar was supplied the boat after going some distance. In the meantime the R.A. boat, a new one built of cedar for the occasion by Moseley, of Dartmouth, secured the lead and finally crossed the line a winner, but not far in front of the H.G.A. which, for obtaining second place after the accident at the start of the race, received an ovation from the spectators as it passed the finish. The first boat got \$15 and the second boat got \$5.

Two sergeants of the royal artillery rowed the winning boat in the flat race. Prize, \$8

Race No. 3, four four-oared gigs and whalers, open to petty officers of the navy and non-commissioned officers of the garrison, had four entries—R. E., Staff and Depts., H. G. A. and 1st King's Regiment. The prizes were \$12, \$5 and \$3. The R. E. won, the Staff and Depts. second, and the H. G. A. came third. A protest was made against the winning whaler. It was claimed the boat had been stripped of lining. The protest was overruled.

Race No. 4, denominated a mixed double scull race, was rowed over a short distance course. The occupants of competing boats were conditioned to be a gentleman stroke, lady bow, and lady coxswain. Five boats started. Miss Curren and Mr. Tracy won, Miss Elliot and Lieutenant Marsh, R. A. were second. Miss Lawson and Mr. Grierson were third. The contest was close. All the boats were bunched near the finish. There were two first and two second prizes.

Race No. 5, over the three-mile course, for ten and twelve oared cutters, attracted the most interest of any on the programme. Three started. Two of these were R. E. cutters, and the other was R.A. The last named cutter only rowed a short distance and retired. The other two cutters were evenly matched. A couple of lengths only divided them, from start to finish. The boat known as Beudigo was first, and that called Hard Lines was second. The prizes were \$25 and \$10.

Race No. 6, for double sculls was open to all comers. Eight boats started, some of them got mixed. The course was one mile with a turn, Messrs. Purcell and Lynch were first, H. G. A. second, Fowler and Lonfield third and White and Lovitt fourth. The prizes were \$12 and \$5.

Event No. 7 was a tug-of-war. Ten yards of rope were attached between the sterns of the boats and one or the other had to be pulled over the line before being beat n. The R.E. defeated the R.A.

Event No. 8, which concluded the programme was open to the R. N., and Marines. A gig from H.M.S. Blake defeated another gig and a cutter from the same warship.