

of the hill two hundred yards in front of the main body, and these spread themselves in two lines in the bushes in loose order ready to open fire on the enemy. The main body was formed into the shape of a horseshoe on the crest of the hill in front of the Union Jack, and in this position there was a wait of twenty minutes. At 2.20 the outposts gave the alarm, the leading lines of the bluejackets' fighting column having been espied among the trees skirting the wood at the foot of the hill.

As soon as Captain Hammet found that he was discovered, he ordered the battery of three guns on his extreme left to open fire on the hill, and on the boom of the cannon being heard, the skirmishers of the defending force returned the attack with independent firing along the line of the outposts. The two guns on the extreme right of the woods then took up the firing, and advanced at the double to a point of vantage two hundred yards in front under a ledge of rock. From this place they continued their fire, covering the advance of the two detachments of marines, who came on doubling in open order from their shelter in the woods. Then they halted and started a heavy, continuous and independent ground fire, responded to by the defenders of the hill with well delivered volleys. This firing was exchanged for ten minutes, but the volunteers kept quiet and waited for a further advance before moving in the battle. It was not until the order was issued for the three fighting columns of bluejackets to advance on the hill that the engagement became general. While the marines were still at their independent firing, the main body of the fighting column fired volley after volley into the defended camp, and it was not long before the order was given for the skirmishing party to retire into the main body, who were then spread loose over the brow of the hill. The left half battery of the invaders was then rushed forward to within 200 yards of the hill, when the gun carriages were unlimbered and a second and most effective cannonade opened up. On seeing the defending force weaken in their firing and retiring in every direction, the leader of the enemy gave the general order to advance at the double.

At the conclusion of the fight the two forces were marshalled on the road leading around the hill and marched in fours to the parade ground, where the whole battalion was formed into a long line two deep in the following order:—On the extreme right was the naval battery; next to them came the blue jackets, then the marines, then the men of "C" Battery, and on the extreme left the members of the British Columbia Garrison Artillery. After a wait of ten minutes Admiral Heneage was driven up to the saluting point. On his arrival the Standard was at once unfurled, and a *feu de joie* saluted the flag as it was flung to the breezes. The band of the *Swiftsure*, stationed at the back of the long column, played "God Save the Queen" in the meantime, and three hearty cheers followed as the strains of the National Anthem died away. The march past was conducted in the same order as the line had been ranged in, and the applause that was awarded each company as it swept past the Admiral in admirable order and machine like step was no less hearty than it was well deserved. The manner in which the naval and military brigades marched past was excellent. In fact, Admiral Heneage, when he in a few well spoken words congratulated the officers on the perfection to which the drill of the various companies had been brought, at the same time expressing the pleasure it had given him to witness it, only echoed the sentiments of the large crowds of spectators assembled round him. The members of the B. C. B. G. A. especially came in for a well deserved share of the praise heard on all sides. The members of the brigade executed all their moments with a precision that left nothing to be desired, and reflected credit in no small degree on both officers and men.

At the conclusion of the marching past, which was performed by company, by battalions, and in close order at the double, the naval battery gave an exhibition of cutlass exercise and practice with the guns which was loudly applauded. The manner in which the guns were unlimbered and returned reflected the greatest credit on the men forming the battery.

The departure of the whole body in fours from the hill, headed by the band playing lively airs, was the signal for a general clearance, although large crowds wandered away among the cool and shady nooks about the artificial lake, and there spent an hour or two in delightful idleness.

Regimental News.

The Yarmouth, N.S., artillery had a church parade on Sunday, 19th May. They left the armoury at 10 o'clock, headed by the Yarmouth brass band, and marched to All Saints, Milton, where a special service and sermon was delivered by Rev. J. Harrison. The marching and fine appearance of Capt. Jolly's men was the subject of favourable comment all along the route, while the music of the band showed a

careful and competent instructor in Prof. Bramhall. The service was heartily entered into, and the sermon listened to with marked attention by all present in the crowded chapel. Over a hundred persons were unable to find even standing room, many waiting outside till the service was over to enjoy the music and a sight of the soldiers. Present on parade—2 officers, 3 sergeants, 2 drums, 36 rank and file and 18 band.

The officers of the 66th Princess Louise Fusiliers entertained their late commanding officer, Lieut. Col. C. J. Macdonald, at a dinner at the Halifax hotel on the 27th May on his retiring from the regiment, Lieut.-Col. Humphrey presiding. Besides the officers of the regiment Lieut.-Cols. Murray, Mackintosh and Wainwright and officers from the West Riding and Royal Artillery were present. After the cloth had been removed and the usual toast to the Queen, the chairman proposed Lieut.-Col. Macdonald, the guest of the evening, referring to his long service in connection with the regiment and the satisfaction given to the officers. He regretted the necessity on account of official duties which compelled him to retire, and assured him that he left the battalion with the best wishes and esteem of every officer and man in the regiment. Lieut.-Col. Macdonald feelingly responded, thanking the officers for the support at all times given him, and assuring them that although not actually connected with them, yet he must always feel an interest in their welfare and future prosperity.

THE NEW COLOURS OF THE FIFTY-FOURTH.

The presentation of new colours to the 54th Richmond Battalion, on the Queen's Birthday, was noted in last issue. Below are the address and reply incident to the occasion.

A square was formed, into which the invited guests, including the Honourables Mrs. Aylmer, Mrs. H. L. Aylmer, Miss Aylmer, Mrs. Blackwell, the clergy and others, were admitted. After prayer by the Rev. James Hepburn, M. A., chaplain of the 54th, Mrs. Gawne and Mrs. Brown, on behalf of the ladies of Richmond and Drummond, presented the colours. Mrs. Gawne read the following address:

To Lieut.-Col. the Right Honourable Udolphus Lord Aylmer, officers and non-commissioned officers of the 54th Batt. Light Infantry, Richmond, P. Que., Canada, May 24th, 1889.

MY LORD,—On behalf of the ladies of the counties of Richmond and Drummond, I have much pleasure in presenting you with the following address.

We are aware of the fact that in the year 1867, the 53rd Batt. at Sherbrooke being divided, the 54th was organized, and that you, my Lord, were transferred from the 53rd Batt. to the command of the 54th Batt., now over a period of twenty-two years, and that your Lordship's services as an officer in the loyal Canadian Militia extend over a half a century. We feel proud to know that the 54th has still on the roll some of the original members of the Batt. when formed in 1867. We also remember that in 1870 the 54th sent representatives to the Red River expedition. If the civil authorities have thus shown their knowledge of the fact that the 54th was always ready, how much more must the ladies, who are especially interested in the Batt., feel pride in the valour of its officers and men? The ladies being desirous of giving a tangible expression to their feelings of admiration for the 54th Batt., have much pleasure in presenting this set of colours, with the certainty that whenever the regiment is called out to fight for Queen and country, hearths and homes, it will not only be true to its new badge, "Steady," but as always of yore "Ready, Aye Ready."

Signed on behalf of the ladies of Richmond and Drummond,

FRANCES ISABEL GAWNE,

E. ADELINE BROWN.

God Save the Queen.

May 24th, 1889.

To which Lord Aylmer replied:

Ladies of Richmond and Drummond:

It gives me the highest gratification to accept from you the elegant and costly set of colours which your generosity and united efforts are to day bestowing upon the regiment which I have the honour to command. Time was when fair ladies spurred on their chosen knights to deeds of daring and adventure, and he who had oftenest been engaged in the bloody encounter, was held in highest honour. Thanks to the advance of our Christian civilization, it is no longer so honourable to seek war as to promote peace; yet the spirit of martial valour has not declined, because the surest way to maintain peace is to be well equipped for war, and to be ready to undertake it in a just cause. Chivalry has but taken a new form and whilst we soldiers are sworn to fight for Queen and country, fair ladies are still in the fore-front to encourage us in maintaining the honour and esprit de corps of our regiment and may even present us with such a talisman as this beautiful banner, which as we look upon it