

rickville Rifles, Capt. Wright; Carleton Place Rifles, Capt. Brown; Pakenham Rifles, Capt. O'Neil; Frankville Rifles, Capt. Lauder; Almonte Infantry, Capt. McDougall; Brockville Infantry, Capt. Geo. Redmond; Perth Infantry, Capt. Matheson; Lansdowne Infantry, Capt. J. P. Redmond; Smith's Falls Infantry, Capt. Anderson; Majors Gemmill and Scott, 42nd Batt., and acting Major Cole, 41st Batt., with the usual regimental staff.

The ground is beautifully situated and in a very short time after the Volunteers marched in, was dotted with very regular rows of white tents, as if in open column right in front. The two Battalions are about 125 yards apart with the headquarters tent in the centre occupied by Lt.-Col. Atcherly, D.A.G., and Lt.-Col. Jackson, Brigade Major, where the Brigade orders are issued every morning at 10 o'clock.

The first two days of the encampment were exceedingly warm, but otherwise the weather was all that could be desired, and between the three drills of two hours each the men might be seen brushing up their arms, accoutrements and clothing, which caused a great improvement in their appearance. Up to last evening everything went off in the best of order and all seemed in the best of spirits, very few cases of sickness being reported by the surgeons, and the camp generally presenting smiling faces but as night set in the rain began to fall, and steadily increased in volume until it fairly poured; this caused every one to feel very uncomfortable, but the quality of the new Government tents were thoroughly tested, and I am happy to say they proved equal to the occasion. At 10 o'clock this (Sunday) morning, your correspondent walked through the camp and found that the precaution taken by the men to cut drains around the outside prevented the wet from running under, and the canvass was so impervious that not a drop of water penetrated it and on this particular there was nothing but praise from all, but the mistake of issuing tent poles nine inches too long is causing a great deal of trouble and although permission has been asked, no authority has yet been received from Ottawa to saw off this small piece of timber; the consequence is that where they cannot be driven into the ground many will be broken. The tents are up from the ground and not properly stretched.

Yesterday your correspondent visited the camp of the 56th, Lt.-Col. Jessup, at Prescott, and found it well arranged in every respect, and in anticipation of the coming rain each tent had a very regular trench cut round it to run off the water; Lt.-Cols. Jessup and White, Major Sheppard and Adjutant Walsh were all in camp attending to their several duties and looking after the welfare of the men. This Battalion is composed of the Iroquois Artillery, Capt. McDonnell; No. 1 Prescott Rifles, Capt. Arm-

strong; No. 2 Prescott Rifles, Capt. Mooney; Brnritt's Rapids Infantry, Capt. Campbell; Millar's Corners Infantry, Capt. John Johnston; and the Spencerville Rifles, Capt. Carmichael. Asst. Surgeon Dr. Church of Merriekville medical officer in charge. The total strength about 300 and some of the companies are up to the maximum strength of fifty-five. The general impression of the officers of the 56th is that the money paid the men for six and a half days drill is thrown away, the time being so short that camp life is only beginning to be learned as the men start for home, and in their opinion as well as many others, the time should be increased to at least fifteen days.

The incessant manner in which the rain has fallen here during the whole day has been the cause for the order for church parade being cancelled and the men are trying to pass the time in the most comfortable manner possible under the circumstances, the officers being in the same uncomfortable position, still there is not a word of complaint from any. The wind has chopped round to the north and I fear the light covering of one blanket per man will not be sufficient to keep them from suffering during the night. It is to be hoped that the Commons will vote a sufficient sum next session to procure another blanket for each Volunteer before next year's drill is ordered.

Monday morning was bright and clear and as the sun ascends and throws out his warm and cheerful rays together with the early drill has so warmed and cheered the men that laughter and song may again be heard in the camp. The nights however, are very cold and with the scanty covering the men suffer very much. Tuesday is bright and cheerful and a Brigade drill and a march out seems to please all. On Wednesday there is to be a rifle match, and on Thursday a grand field day and sham fight of all the Volunteers in camp. It is hardly necessary to say that a marked improvement in drill of both officers and men is very perceptible. The total strength is 12 companies, 600 all ranks.

Brockville. 26th Sept., 1869.

52ND BEDFORD BATTALION IN CAMP.

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

This fine Battalion under command of Lieut.-Col. R. Miller has lately been in camp at Knowlton Que., a place noted for the beauty and magnificence of scenery.

The Battalion, which mustered 359 of all ranks, was inspected on Thursday, the 23rd inst., by Lieut. Col. Osborne Smith, D. A. G., who expressed himself highly pleased with the general appearance, soldier like bearing and steadiness of the men; and complimented the Commanding Officer in the highest terms for the efficiency of his battalion in every respect. It will be remembered that more than one Company of this

battalion has already "seen service," and the good name they deserved gained on the Frontier continues untarnished. The officers one and all seem volunteers at heart, thoroughly up in their drill and most successful in their exertions to do credit to the force judging from happy result displayed on Thursday.

The camp was situated on a hill about a mile and a half from the town, with a gradual slope to the rear and a steeper descent towards the front, facing Knowlton; flanked on one side by a young forest of maples; the road to the landing forming the reverse flank. Stretching out in all its beauty and reflecting every variety of shadow in its placid waters and enclosed by thickly wooded hills in the distance lay Brome Lake on the one hand, whilst the nearer and more rugged ascent on the other side of the road with the Bolton Pass to the rear, presented a scene of natural beauty which is seldom excelled in this country.

Col. Smith having dispensed with the formal routine of a parade inspection ordered the Battalion out for a "field day," having first carefully explained to the men the nature of the proposed attack, and the various movements they were expected to make in grappling with the supposed enemy. The day was beautifully fine—indeed one of the most charming we have had this summer—the battalion looked well drawn up in column and the men were in high spirits. The enemy made his first attack from the town but being repulsed tried to gain a bridge which lay on their right, but the gallant 52nd having taken it threw out a line of skirmishers and after a warmly contested fight, leaving the killed and wounded behind, marched in triumph through the town after which they returned to camp headed by their brass band. The view from the hill was excellent, and the sham fight only showed too plainly what might be done in reality should the men ever be called upon to do active service.

The camp was a picture of cleanliness and neatness; the officers' tents all having arches made of balsams and fir and otherwise tastefully decorated outside; whilst the men's quarters were equally pretty though less pretending in appearance.

After the erection of the experimental redoubt by the troops at Chatham a fortnight ago a curious incident occurred. The Duke of Cambridge, as commander-in-chief, recently signified his 'pleasure' that all officers should wear steel scabbards for their swords and at considerable trouble and expense the whim of his Royal Highness was obeyed. A group of officers, equipped with these new steel scabbards, was formed inside the Chatham redoubt at night when a supposed enemy threw an electric light upon the work. In an instant each officer stood revealed by a gleam of white light down his side, an easy prey to the enemy's sharpshooters, had the campaign been real instead of mimic. "The steel scabbards ordered by his Royal Highness are now to be blackened, also at considerable trouble and expense. The story points its own moral.