

who had been kept a prisoner in the church at Batoche by the rebels, when explaining the brutal conduct he and his companions had experienced at the hands of Dumont. Some of the officers and correspondents with the advance body had been eagerly questioning the good priests about the rebel chiefs, for from the opening of the campaign not a single shred of reliable information had reached General Middleton from Riel's camp, when some one chanced to enquire whether Dumont was a very brave man, and likely to fight to the last. The priest, if I mistake not it was the Rev. Father Fourmond, at once remarked that Dumont had shown himself anything but a hero at Fish Creek, and had fled from that engagement as soon as he found that he could not surprise the column, leaving some of his Indian allies, a mere handful, to their fate. The priest added that the Indians ever since that occasion had acted very coolly towards Dumont and the rest of the Metis."

THE QUEEN'S OWN.

The Queen's Own paraded on Wednesday night, 15th inst., 523 strong and headed by both Brass and Bugle Bands marched to Wellington street, where battalion and company drill was gone through.

Among the orders of the evening were: "The officer commanding has been pleased to make the following promotions: "E" Co., to be Sergeant in the Band with rank of Colour-Sergeant, Sergt. Caldwell. To be Sergeant: Corpl. C. D. Lennox. "G" Co., to be Colour-Sergeant: Sergt. Sanson, N.B., *vice* Thompson discharged. To be Sergeant: Corpl. Leacock *vice* Sanson promoted. To be Corporal: Pte. Cuff, H. W., *vice* Capp discharged. To be Corporal: Pte. Worthy, H., *vice* Leacock promoted.

The following having passed the necessary examinations are granted certificates as under: Corporals Certificates—A Co., Ptes. Egan, H. B.; Matthews, J. J. B Co., Ptes. Cramp, T. H.; Taylor, R.; Allum, T. C. C Co., Ptes. Collins, J. E.; Fraser, D. C. D Co., Ptes. Agar, E.; Morrell, M.; Porter, W. A.; Turner, J. K. B. E Co., Ptes. Blair, W. C.; Edington, R. A. F Co., Ptes. Tew, H.; Marsh, W. L. E.; Agnew, R. W.; Bedford-Jones; Parrott, W.; Forster, E. G Co., Ptes. Linton, M. W.; O'Callaghan, F.; Paine, W. E. F.; Smith, C. A. H Co., Ptes. Read, M. F.; Evans, W. B. J Co., Ptes. Ramsay, F.; Higginbotham, H.; Francis, C.; Lightbound.

Until further orders no company will be permitted to have more than 60 n. c. o. and men on its strength.

This last order will have a beneficial effect in every way as the regiment is growing so rapidly that it is almost an impossibility to obtain sufficient rifles and side-arms for drill purposes.

The new uniforms for the regiment have at last arrived and everyone is correspondingly happy.

BRECH BLOCK.

THE EIGHTH ROYAL RIFLES.

The sports given by the officers and men of the Eighth Royal Rifles, Quebec, on Tuesday evening, 14th inst., under the patronage of Sir A. P. Caron, Minister of Militia, Major-General Herbert, Commander of Her Majesty's Dominion Militia forces, and Lieut.-Col. Duchesnay, D.A.G., came off with great *eclat* and were a success in every particular. There were some two thousand spectators present, including a number of invited guests. The officers present belonging to the garrison and in uniform were, besides the patrons, Lieut.-Col. Montizambert, Commandant of "B" Battery; Lt.-Col. Turnbull, Commandant of the Royal School of Cavalry; Lt.-Col. Scott, late commandant of the Eighth Royal Rifles; Lt.-Col. Prower, Commandant of the Eighth; Major Crawford Lindsay, Commandant of the Q.F.B.; Capt. Stratfield, A. D. C. to Major-General Herbert; Capt. Rutherford, Capt. Lessard and all the officers of the Eighth Royal Rifles.

Lieut.-Colonels Montizambert, Turnbull, Scott and Major Lindsay acted as judges, Capt. Rutherford starter, and Capt. Lessard official time keeper. The Committee of arrangements was composed of Capt. Dunbar, chairman; Lieut. Dunn, secretary; Capt. Wood, Lieut. Davidson and Sergts. Morgan, Goudie, Dewfall and Presho, and Corps. Davidson and Hawkins, who managed all the items of the programme with great skill. The course and body of the Drill Hall was kept clear of spectators, who had to go on the galleries, and there was not a hitch. The sports commenced with a one hundred yards race in heats. Five contestants entered, and the race was won by Corp. R. J. Davidson, with Pte. W. Bickell a good second. The time was fast.

The next item on the programme was the mile race and most interesting contest of the evening. There were five entries, Trooper J. McKendry, Q.O.C.H., Corporal Watson, Eighth R.R., Trooper Lamothe, R.S.C., Bandsman Pugh, "B" Battery, and Private Savard, Ninth Battalion. From the start to the finish Trooper McKendry led in the race and passed the running post an easy winner. The race for the second place was a good one between Lamothe, Watson and Pugh. Finally Corporal Watson surged ahead and came in second, followed by Trooper Lamothe a good third. The official time was 5.41 4-5.

The sack race was the next on the programme. There were five entries. It was won by Trooper Herbert Scott, Q.O.C.H., Bandsman Pugh, "B" Battery, passing the judge's stand a good second.

A heavy marching race was the next item, five members of the Eighth Royal Rifles entering, and had to run twice around the shed dressed in heavy marching order. Corporal R. J. Davidson proved the winner, and Private W. Hosack carried off the second prize, Private Norton being a good third.

A quarter mile race came next with four entries, viz., Private J. Walsh, Eighth R.R., Private W. Bickell, Trooper E. Bonham, and Private R. Von Iffland. The race was a very interesting one. At the word go all four contestants got away together in excellent style and ran a close race, Private J. Walsh passing the winning flags the first, closely followed by W. Bickell and E. Bonham.

A hurdle race, 220 yards, over 4 ft. 3 in. hurdles, was the next item. There were three entries, Corporal R. J. Davidson, Eighth R.R., Trooper J. McKendry, Q.O.C.H., and Private R. Von Iffland, Eighth R.R. This race was splendidly contested. Corporal Davidson came in first and Private Von Iffland carried off the second prize.

In a three-legged race three couples or six competitors entered and the race was won by Corporal Davidson and Pte. W. Bickell; Corporal Watson and Trooper McKendry second.

The obstacle race was the next and most amusing event of the evening. Eight contestants entered, who had to go through an intricate net work and next in and out a labyrinth of barrels, boxes, under canvas, through a bag, all to be gone through twice, besides running around the course. Bandsman Pugh, "B" Battery, proved the victor; Private G. Norton carried off second prize, and Gunner H. Morgan, "B" Battery, third prize.

Putting the sixteen pound shot was the next content. There were four entries. Gunner Kerr, "B" Battery; Trooper Boyd, R.S.C.; Gunner Conway, "B" Battery, and Private Bignell, Eighth R. R. Gunner Kerr proved the victor, throwing the shot 32 feet 7 inches; Trooper Boyd came next, 28 feet 10 inches.

A one mile bicycle race was the next item. There were five entries: G. Staton, W. Home, Dave Watson, Ulric Rousseau and Jos. Denis. The contestants all started together and on the first turn an accidental foul occurred by Jos. Denis running right into Dave Watson, knocking him over; then a collision followed between W. Home and Denis, and all three fell. Staton escaped and continued on, while