

Tight Binding

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The Woodstock Journal.

The Journal. Thursday, July 19, 1860. INSPECTION OF THE RIFLE COMPANIES.

On Thursday evening last Major Carter of the 63d Regiment arrived in Woodstock for the purpose of inspecting the Rifle Companies in this vicinity. On Friday morning Captain Baird's company were paraded on the hill beyond the Creek, at 8 a. m. in the presence of the Major. The Company mustered forty all told. They went through a variety of evolutions. After some forty or fifty minutes thus spent, the Major addressed the officers and men, complimenting them on their proficiency in drill, under the unfavorable circumstances in which they had been placed. They had labored, he said, under the disadvantages which attended the commencement of those and all other enterprises. Those who joined the Company in future would have the benefit of going amongst men already partially disciplined, and familiarized with the elementary evolutions, and would therefore be able to learn with more ease and more rapidity. It was highly creditable to them that laboring under all the disadvantages which attended the initiation of any movement, and with no aid but a few weeks tuition by the drill sergeant when he had sent them, they had attained such a degree of proficiency; and it was creditable to the Town of Woodstock itself that it should turn out such a volunteer company, especially as it had recently been visited. The men now before him could feel that they had already acquired a knowledge of military combination and movements which made them a match for more than their number of undisciplined men, and that if called upon to defend their homes, their wives and their children, they could do so much more effectively than those who had not received the same instruction. They might not now require to turn to general use the knowledge which they possessed; nor in two years, or ten years, or perhaps they might never require it. But at the same time it must not be forgotten that the time might come, and that perhaps soon, when they would be called upon to put in practice, in defense of themselves and their country, the art which had been taught them; and they would find how valuable spent had been the time devoted to military drill. There was one thing which he desired to impress upon them particularly. The rifles which they held in their hands were of the very best description; they were equal in every respect to any rifles used in the British army, or in the world. Their accuracy was great, and they carried a great distance; he had seen men killed with them at over half a mile's range. He wished to impress upon them the necessity of taking the best of care of them, and of keeping them properly cleaned; if this was not done they could not depend upon their preserving their accuracy. Major Carter then described the means which should be taken to keep the rifles cleaned, and went on to say that after a time no doubt ball cartridge would be served out to the Company, and they would have an opportunity of having ball practice, and of learning to shoot with these admirable arms. This was the first Company which he had inspected in the Province. In all probability there would now be an annual inspection of all the volunteer corps in the Province; and he trusted that who- ever should come here to inspect them next year would find the company much increased in number and in proficiency in its drill. He should not only make a report to the Commander in Chief of the New Brunswick Militia, the Lieutenant Governor, but this report would also go home to the Duke of Cambridge, Commander in Chief of the British Army, so that the creditable proficiency which they had attained would be known in the highest quarters. The inspection then closed. The Company was not fully uniformed, but nearly all the men present wore some one or other article of their dress. We understand that by the 20th of July the whole effective force of the Company will be fully uniformed. The remarks of Major Carter must have been highly gratifying to men, to officers, and to the spectators present. And here we may say that while every credit is due to all connected with the Company it is no deduction from the merit of any to say that to Captain Baird they owe very much of the efficiency which drew forth Major Carter's commendatory remarks. A more active, painstaking and attentive

officer than Captain Baird is, we feel confident, not possessed by any volunteer corps in the Province. His previous acquaintance with the drill gave him, of course, some advantages; but the care attention and energy which he has given to this work deserve the thanks of every friend to the volunteer movement; and we are heartily glad that the value of his labors met with such a recognition as the laudatory remarks of Major Carter upon the efficiency of his Company. In the afternoon the Major, accompanied by the officers of the Woodstock Company, and others, drove out to Richmond Corner, and inspected Captain Kilburn's Company. Owing to the shortness of the notice given them, and the distances apart which the men live, spread over a whole country side, the number was small, amounting to some twenty-two, almost all of whom, however, were in uniform. The only available place for drill was the highway, in which the Company could not manoeuvre to advantage. After the inspection Major Carter addressed the Company; but as his remarks contained much of the same matter as those reported above, we need not repeat them. He told them that under the circumstances in which they were placed, living in the country, separated from each other by distances of, in several cases, twelve or fourteen miles, they had made a progress in drill which was much to their credit, and he trusted that they would continue their efforts. Although it did not fall within his line of duty, he might mention that there was a probability of their being called to Frederickton, to take part in the reception of the Prince of Wales, and he believed that in that display they would do credit to themselves and to the district from whence they came. He was glad to find that so many of the Company had already provided themselves with a uniform.

The proceedings of Friday last will, we are gratified to think, give a new impetus to the volunteer movement in this County.

REPLY TO THE AROOSTOOK TIMES.

Our Houlton contemporary, in its issue of the 13th instant, replies to our remarks, made two weeks since, upon Mr. Hallock's slander of Woodstock; and endeavors to clear itself from blame. The following extract contains the substance of its argument: "Our object in noticing the article is simply to repel the unjust and unreasonable imputation cast upon us by the Journal, that by inserting Mr. Hallock's letter without our consent we became an endorser of the sentiments he thought proper to express in relation to our Woodstock neighbours. Now nobody understands better than the Journal, that a newspaper is responsible only for what it says editorially, and is in no manner accountable for the opinions expressed by correspondents, or by other papers from which it may copy, so long as they contain nothing contrary to morality and propriety. The opposite doctrine would involve an absurdity, and make a newspaper a very one-sided affair indeed. There is hardly a newspaper in the country whose columns do not contain weekly many items from exchanges and other sources which are very far from being in unison with the sentiments of its conductors. In the same number of the Journal in which the above article appeared, there is published a letter from Mr. Macaulay, of doubtful authenticity, in which American institutions, and our whole system of Republican government is misrepresented and denounced. Yet we should be very unwilling to believe that the Journal endorses the sentiments of that letter, although it publishes it without a word of reproof or denial. We cannot allow the Times to dodge out of its false position under cover of this fallacy. We are acquainted with the law of editorial responsibility which it enunciates, and recognize its correctness. But we know also, as does the Times, that there is such a thing as moral responsibility, which is of as much importance and as much obligation as the legal responsibility. If you merely repeat, as a report, a statement which you may have heard concerning another person, affecting his reputation, and which you know to be false, you may not be guilty of legal slander. But will the Times assert that if you repeat such a story concerning your friend, not as your own statement or opinion, but merely as having heard it in the street, without accompanying it with a word of contradiction, doubt, or qualification, you do that which is honorable and manly? Yet this is precisely what our contemporary has done. It knows per-

fectly well what were the facts respecting the Woodstock fire and the subsequent rebuilding of the Town; and being generally believed to possess this information, any uncontradicted statements respecting those which may appear in its columns are regarded by many of those not having opportunities of personal observation as correct and reliable. Yet these statements, not "sentiments" merely, of Mr. Hallock are allowed to appear in the body of a selected article, which is provided with an editorial preface, without contradiction or qualification. Our publication of a letter by the late Lord Macaulay, —the "sentiments" of which, by the way, we heartily "endorse,"—expressing grave doubts of the value of the democratic institutions of the United States, has about as much similarity to the case of the Times inserting Mr. Hallock's remarks about Woodstock as the nectar of the gods has to Yankee "white-eye," as any one who knows the difference between opinions and facts can see at a glance.

The Times goes on to say "by way of explanation, and not as an apology," that in copying the letter of Mr. Hallock the remarks which excited our ire "wholly escaped the Editor's attention," although even if they had whither he "should have felt bound to have taken up the glove in behalf of his Woodstock friends, while they have at home such gallant champions as the Journal may admit of a question." Had our contemporary contented himself with this explanation, instead of prefixing to it the lame argument given above, all would have been well as regarded his conduct toward Woodstock.

While we will do the conductor of the Times the justice to say that we readily believe his denial of any intention or wish to "say ought of disparagement or detraction against the people of Woodstock," we must be allowed to add that we had much rather that he should find some other mode of displaying his good feeling toward them than insisting to circulate Mr. Hallock's slanders. The allusion of the Times for us bears too striking a resemblance to that ascribed in the popular song to the Irishman, who goes out, meets a friend, and for love knocks him down, to be pleasant to those upon whom it is bestowed. If it is all the same to the Times, the people of Woodstock would prefer to exchange the good will which leads to such results for such an amount of hatred as would induce it to treat us kindly.

But to leave jesting aside. We do not think that the few words which we addressed to the proprietor and conductor of the Times will bear out its imputation of "attacking it in a discourteous and unreasonable manner." Under the aggravated circumstances of the case we were exceedingly forbearing to them—and to Mr. Hallock. And, just at present, we have nothing more to say; save to thank the Times for its complimentary tone, and to warmly unite with it in the expression of opinion that—"it will take something more than 'Yankee Scribblers,' or Blue-ink scribbles, to disturb the cordial relations which happily exist between the two sections, and which are soon, we hope, to be further strengthened and riveted by bands of iron."

JUSTICE TO WOODSTOCK.—The Aroostook Pioneer, in the following paragraph in its issue of the 17th, does that justice to our people which all observing and truthful visitors will readily yield: "We have lately visited this pleasant and active town, and were much pleased to notice the extensive preparations here being made to erect several large brick blocks in the burnt district. The people of Woodstock are full of energy and courage, notwithstanding their town was almost entirely destroyed by the late fire."

CAMP MEETING.—The Wesleyan Camp meeting commenced in the woods near the residence of John Bennett, Esq., on Wednesday, the 11th instant, and continued until to-day the 19th. On Sunday the attendance was immense, the people coming from all parts of the country, and from great distances, to the late fire."

NEW PUBLICATIONS.—Godley's Lady's Book for August has already made its appearance. The engravings are very fine, and the character of this popular Magazine for usefulness to the class for which it is intended is well sustained.

EXPLANATORY.—Delay in the arrival of a supply of paper is our excuse for the issue of a late sheet this week, and the delay in publication.

THE WEATHER.—During the last week we have been visited by several pelting and refreshing showers, to the great delight of agriculturists. They came too late however to redeem the grass crop. The water in the River is very low—almost as low as it has been for years.

PRESENTATION OF A SILVER BUGLE TO THE 7th DURHAM RIFLES.

The volunteer movement had made considerable progress in other parts of the country before it was taken up in Durham; but the tardiness exhibited at the outset has been amply redeemed by the vigour and spirit displayed on all sides after the matter had been earnestly taken in hand. We are glad to find amongst the volunteers of Durham the importance of discipline has been fully recognized, and the attention which they have given to the careful instructions of Sergeant-Major Flack has its reward in the very cordial reception which they meet with whenever they appear in public. The estimation in which the corps is held has been manifested in a variety of ways; but the most striking instance of this feeling was afforded on Whit Monday, when the ladies of Durham did the volunteers the distinguished honor of presenting the corps with a silver bugle, and the High Sheriff of the county entertained the whole of the members at his magnificent residence, Burn Hall. The proceedings in connection with the presentation of the bugle were of a most interesting character, and the volunteers received quite an ovation. About two o'clock the bugle sounded, and the volunteers, to the number of one hundred and fifty-one, including the band, assembled on the Court Green where the muster-roll was called over. They afterwards formed into fours, and headed by the band, marched away to the Palace Green. The crowd of spectators was immense. Almost every window and doorway was occupied by admiring gazers, and the volunteers were repeatedly cheered as they passed along. On the arrival of the corps at the Palace Green a large body of spectators had assembled, and there was an accession to their number up to three o'clock, the hour appointed for the ceremony of the day to take place. The ground in the centre was filled with the friends of the ladies' committee, and the relatives of the volunteers. After the corps had been put through a few evolutions, they were drawn up on the south side of the mound with their backs towards the cathedral. The Hon. Mrs. George Liddell, daughter of General Meade, had been selected to make the presentation, and a few minutes after three she made her appearance on the scene, leaning on the arm of H. J. Spearman, Esq., the High Sheriff of the county. They were followed by the Hon. G. Liddell and Lady Williamson, and the four ladies of the committee—viz. Mrs. W. Henderson, Mrs. Hayes, Mrs. G. P. White, and Mrs. W. Stoker. The bugle was borne on a crimson velvet cushion by Mr. Henry Bell, and was of elegant design and exquisite workmanship. The whole party stationed themselves on a temporary platform, and immediately behind them were a number of ladies who had taken an active share in the promotion of the undertaking. The officers of the corps having taken their places, and the men having shouldered arms with their glittering bayonets fixed on the ends of the rifles, the Hon. Mrs. George Liddell stood forward and spoke as follows:—"Captain Elliot, and Gentlemen of the Volunteers, I am deputed by the ladies of Durham—not as the most eloquent, but as the daughter of a noble soldier who fought and bled for his country, and I may add, as the wife of a soldier who would never have quitted his beloved profession had not failing health compelled him—to present to this gallant corps a silver bugle, as a mark of our esteem and admiration of the noble and patriotic manner in which the volunteer movement has been responded to in this our ancient city. Unmindful of the sacrifices of time which would otherwise have been devoted to peaceful pursuits, you have, as it were, placed yourselves at school to learn military duties, not from a love of war, but a devotion to Peace and her attendant blessings (Applause)—thereby proving your loyalty to your Queen and your country, and showing to the world at large your determination to resist, even to the death, that foe who shall dare to set foot on British soil. Gentlemen of the volunteers—We, the women of England, are ready also to become volunteers in that which becomes our sex, if war should come and spread de-"

struction, and mourning, and woe through this our beloved land—which God in his infinite mercy forbid!—still, if for our many shortcomings it should be permitted to chastise us, we shall be found ready in that hour of need to come forward with one heart and one mind to tend the sick and suffering, to comfort the mourner, to cheer the bereaved and those cast down by hardships which their peaceful occupations had never caused them to feel. And, remained you how sublime a thing it is to suffer and be strong, should this bugle sound to arms, should fraud or danger be at hand, we bid you, father, husbands, brothers, sons, go forth in the might of righteous duty to defend your Queen, your country, and your homes, and may the God of battles have you in his holy keeping!"

Captain Elliot, having received the bugle from the hands of Mrs. Liddell, the bugler was called forward, and the bugle was handed to him, the fair lady placing over his shoulders the silver cord to which the bugle was attached. Captain Elliot returned thanks on behalf of the corps, which shortly afterwards marched to Burn Hall to partake of the hospitality of the High Sheriff of the county, H. J. Spearman, Esq.

A gentleman of Halifax, we are informed by the Sun, has been unable to purchase as much Nova Scotia gold as would make a finger ring. We are of the opinion the real wealth of the sister Province is to be found in "the deep deep sea," which surrounds her coast, when it will be looked for in vain as the Tangier Mines, which, unless correct information is speedily circulated will prove a delusion and a snare to the industry of the country.—New Brunswick.

The cost of the Prince of Wales' visit to Montreal will be \$109,000.

The wealth of the United States is estimated at twelve thousand millions, which, counting five persons to each family, would give \$2,500 to every family of the republic.

VICTORIA GRAND JURY REPORT.

To the Editor of the Woodstock Journal.

MR. EDITOR.—As a member of the late Grand Jury of this County I would most respectfully call upon the Clerk of the Court for some elucidation upon the story quite current throughout the County, that our Report has been feloniously abstracted from his file of County papers. For the information of the Public I may state that this Grand Jury as a body refused sanctioning any assessment on the County until such sums as remained in Magistrates hands for collection were satisfactorily accounted for; this was embodied in the Report, as also the names of the Justices against whom amounts stood unsettled; all of which was to have been reported to the Executive. Some suspicious circumstances connected with the disappearance of the Report very strongly induce one of the most interested members of the Bench as chief actor in this little piece of villainy. However the Public have long ere this been prepared to hear of the perpetration of any act—Penitentiary or otherwise—from Victoria County Justices. Indeed as your correspondent of last week most truly remarked, it does indeed seem that the Smashers have taken much pains to select their favored ones men whose chief recommendations for office must be the grossest "ignorance" blended with the "committal of Penitentiary offices."

Public opinion will insist upon a clearing up of this late transaction, otherwise if the affair is to be hushed up, what do we next expect?

A GRAND JUROR, Victoria County, July 12th, 1860.

DIED.

At Howard Settlement, Canterbury, on 9th April, after a few days illness, much regretted, Barbara Ellen, the beloved wife of the late Mr. Joseph Martin, Junior, and second daughter of Hugh M. Kay, Esquire, J. P., in the 23rd year of her age, leaving an infant daughter. Her end was peace.

At Howard Settlement, Canterbury, on 23rd April, in the full assurance of eternal life, Mr. Joseph Martin, Junior, in the 24th year of his age, deservedly esteemed in the country, and leaving a large circle of relations and friends to mourn their bereavement.

At Howard Settlement, Canterbury, on 27th June, in the 84th year of his age, Robert M. Kay, second son of Hugh M. Kay, Esquire, J. P. He died in the triumph of faith in hope of a blissful immortality, regretted, not only by his family, but the manly in general.

In South Richmond, on the tenth inst., Kirkpatrick, aged, 73 years.

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