

made in the selection of Mr. Griffin as bandmaster. The following is the programme :—

1. Quickstep. . . . . Scotland. . . . . Bracon.
2. Cavatina. . . . . Giovanna D'Arco. . . . . Verdi.
3. Selection. . . . . Scotland's Pride. . . . . Godfrey.
4. Valse. . . . . Bitter Sweet. . . . . Lawrhean.
5. Troop. . . . . Comin' thro' the Rye. . . . . Morelli.
6. Galop. . . . . Light as a Feather. . . . . Nicolai.

The toast list was commenced about 11 o'clock. The Queen being given with the customary honours.

Sergt. McEvoy then read letters of regret from Lieut.-Governor Kirkpatrick, Major-General Herbert, Lieut. Col. Otter; D.A.G., Sir Casimir Gzowski, Lieut.-Col. Sweny, Lieut.-Col. G. T. Denison, Lieut.-Col. F. C. Denison, Lieut.-Col. J. M. Gibson, Lieut.-Col. Dawson, Major Hay, Judge Macdougall, Capt. Hendrie, Chaplain Macdonnell, and to every one's surprise and amusement from Major Buchan, but in justice it must be stated that when the occasion arose the genial Major made out a thoroughly satisfactory explanation.

The Commanding Officer and Staff was given with Highland honours, and to the eye of any other nationality the sight was a treat, and showed what a poor attempt any one else but Highlanders can make at it.

This was responded to by Lieut.-Col. Davidson, Majors Cosby and Macdonald; and as the Colonel, taking his cue from a recent lecture, held that the Majors were not at all an indispensable feature, placed on them the responsibility of replying fully to this toast, contenting himself with congratulating the Mess on the success of the dinner. Major Cosby followed in a similar strain and in a similar manner, so that the bulk of the work fell upon the shoulders of Major W. C. Macdonald. That this was executed in a satisfactory manner goes without saying, and ample evidence was given, that the popularity with which Major Macdonald was held in the Queen's Own, has followed him in his promotion in the 48th.

Mr. W. Simpson then favoured the Company with a song, after which "The Canadian Militia," coupled with the names of Lieut.-Col. Gray, B.M., Lieut.-Col. Hamilton, Major Buchan and Capt. Macdougall, was duly honoured.

Lieut.-Col. Gray began by stating that he had just completed thirty-seven continuous years' service, and in the event of the grand decapitation act taking place, which the papers had recently alluded, he felt that he was still eligible to become a private in the 48th, and that with diligence and hard work he might become a corporal or better still, one of themselves. In speaking of the recent inspection he gave several interesting pointers and stated that he had found fault with the 48th for the carelessness with which the haversacks had been put away. He complimented the Queen's Own on the state of their armouries, taking into consideration the miserable accommodation they had to contend with, but stated that they had lost points through the absence of a great many keepers of the slings on the rifles.

Referring to the 13th, he stated how he caught that regiment napping. Col. Gibson, he stated, came into the Stores Department with a long list of what they required for the rifles and bayonets and on leaving the room had the misfortune to overlook the list. This was transferred to the B.M.'s pocket, with the thought that it might prove of service when a visit was paid to Hamilton. Amongst other things the list showed that rifle 125 wanted a piston for the breechlock, and that rifle 137 lacked a screw in the swivel of the guard for the sling. At the inspection, lo and behold! rifle 125 was not perfect, nor was the screw utilised on rifle 137, a regimental or yet a satisfactory one, the result being that the 13th lost points on arms.

Lieut.-Col. Hamilton followed and congratulated the 48th Sergeant's Mess on the magnificent success of their dinner. He stated that seeing so many ex-members of the Q.O.R. he felt thoroughly at home and hoped that the splendid feeling that has already characterized the two regiments would never wane. He assured the 48th that the admission of Col. Gray would, indeed, prove a valuable acquisition, but thought that the fact of his not being a Highlander would prove a fatal barrier. He expected that they would profit by the pointers that had been given them, and touching the lack of keepers on the Q.O.R. rifle slings stated that they felt secure it would not have been noticed, trusting to the old adage, "That what the eye did not see the heart will not grieve for." This did not seem to effect the B.M.'s heart, because his heart seemed to grieve for them, and although his eye did not see them his hand felt for them and lo and behold! they were not

there. The Colonel dwelt tragically on the awful result to the Q.O.R. if red-handed war was to make its appearance and they were to take the field minus those keepers, their fate would at once be sealed and the cause they fought for all but lost.

Major Buchan referred to the number of riflemen who now wore the 48th uniform, and referring to the arduous and painstaking work of Capt. Macdougall, (who was once a rifleman) stated that they owed a good deal to that branch of the service.

Capt. Macdougall was enthusiastically received, and spoke briefly of the formation of the regiment and of the formation of the sergeant's mess. He told the following story, tracing its rise from a cupboard and a few shelves. He said that he, in company with the Sergt.-Major, had set out to look for quarters, and coming to a large room thought that it would prove to be the very thing. The S.M. assented, and pointing out a large cupboard, with a few shelves, stated that that would come in very handy for—overcoats. A few nights after Capt. Macdougall thought that he would see how the Mess was getting on, and securing the services of a guide and a lantern, set out to explore. Reaching the room he found a table and a few chairs. On the table were to be seen two glasses, both empty, and a further search, in the overcoat cupboard, revealed a bottle, also empty. Without further exploration he concluded that the Sergeant's Mess was formed, and to-night felt that they should be congratulated on its progress.

Mr. F. H. Litster rendered in good style "The MacGregor Clan;" and the toast of "Canada," coupled with the name of Mr. Alex. Muir, President Army and Navy Veterans, was the next on the list.

The company sang the chorus of the "Maple Leaf," of which Mr. Muir is the author.

Mr. Muir began by stating that although he had Scotch blood in his veins, he felt that the only clan he could lay claim to was MacSemper Paratus. He stated that he was sure the 48th had none among their list of friends or members who were annexationists, none like the wandering professor who was born grumbling, lived grumbling, and would die grumbling, - and none but those who were worthy descendants of the men who first placed the Union Jack over the Citadel of Quebec and the Plains of Abraham, and through whose assistance it has waved unsullied and unstained ever since. He referred to the trials of Canada in the olden days, when, despite the then proportion of 20 to 1 to the people to the south of us, we so bravely held our own. Are we not, he said, when that proportion has to be reduced 12 to 1, any less able to take the same care of our country? He referred to the success of Canada and Canadians wherever they went, instancing how Donald Dennie had to succumb to the Canadian, Rory McLennan, and how in the world-wide competition the essay of Lt.-Col. G. T. Denison won the prize donated by the Czar of Russia. The speaker was frequently interrupted by applause, and the scene at the close, when the vast company arose and gave three hearty and heartfelt cheers, will long be remembered.

"Our Brother Non-Coms." brought responses from Sergt.-Major Stretton, G. G. B. G., Sergt.-Major Spry, T.F.B., Qmr.-Sergt. Borland, 2nd Co. C.R.I., Sergt.-Major George, Q.O.R., Sergt.-Major Cox, 10th R.G., Staff-Sergt Mills, Col.-Sergt. Atkinson, 13th, and Col.-Sergt. Mellest, 38th.

"Our Guests," was briefly replied to by Mr. W. Mortimer Clark, Q.C., and Mr. W. Simpson, President Caledonian Society, who did yeoman service in the formation of the corps, and Major Delamere, Q.O.R.

"The Ladies," responded to by Sergt. McEvoy, and "The Press" by representatives of the *Mail* and CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE completed the toast list.

Amongst the contributors to the programme were Mr. Gault, Mr. Muir, and Pipe-Major Ireland.

After the conclusion of the dinner an adjournment was made to the Mess-Room, and the festivities continued until an early hour, or rather a late hour, in the morning. A description of the menu card would not be out of place, because in the military line it has seldom, if ever, been equalled in the city, and reflects the greatest credit on the designer. In the top corner appears the crest of the regiment; in the centrepiece, bordered with thistles, appears a reproduction of a picture of the 79th on parade on the esplanade of Edinburgh Castle, the Castle appearing prominently in the back-ground; quite as conspicuous, appears the picture of a 48th Highlander in full