

stage, another band is faintly heard approaching in the distance; as it draws near it becomes more distinct until the whole band takes it up and then the music swells out into a double forte passage. The band was forced to respond to an encore repeating the last number. The "Corporal's Galop" and regimental marches closed the entertainment. Between the different band numbers solos and recitations were interspersed, rendered by local talent. The concert is to be repeated sometime in the middle of the month.

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The following officers, non-commissioned officers and men are taking courses in artillery at the Tete-de-Pont Barracks: Lieut. Caines, Serg. Finnegan, Driver Finnegan, Kingston Field Battery; Corp. Crowe, Bomb. Weston, Gr. Henderson, Durham Field Battery; Driver Bernard and Trumpeter Smith, Toronto Field Battery; Grs. Caswell and Hooper, Gananoque Field Battery.

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Serg.-Major R. D. Baker, 14th P.W.O. Rifles, and Serg. W. P. Hewgill, "A" Battery R.C. A., represented their respective corps at the Q.O.R. Sergeants' Mess dinner in Toronto on the 24th of February. Sergeant-Major Baker when he returned home brought an interesting souvenir from the 48th's Sergeants' Mess.

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A class in signalling has been started at the barracks. They have secured the necessary apparatus, heliographs, &c., and are making rapid progress, some of the members being very expert. Those who devote their time to this study are Sergeants Back and Pierson, Corps. Dunlop and Rooney, Bombadier Simons and Gunner McDonald.

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The Social Club had another of their enjoyable smoking concerts on the 18th. Instrumental music, songs and recitations occupied the time until the hour for dispersing for the night arrived. The dramatic class in connection with the club have in preparation a military drama written by Bomb. Thresham, entitled "The Hand of Fate." It is doubtful if it will be produced on the concert hall stage as it is too small a place to correctly stage such a piece. I think the author would do much better if he would attempt it on the Opera House stage where it could be properly put before the public giving them the opportunity of judging its merits or demerits.

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The Sergeants' Mess of the 14th Battalion are pleased to welcome into their ranks again Ambulance Sergeant H. M. Jack, who was colour-sergeant of "C" Company. He will be a valuable addition to the mess meetings, having been one of the committee who drafted the constitution of the mess and is therefore well informed on all points of the organization.

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It is probable that one of the junior captains of the 14th "Princess of Wales Own Rifles" will be appointed Quartermaster of the regiment *vice* the late Major Spriggs.

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Capt. W. B. Burnett, "C" Troop of the 4th Regiment Cavalry, Kingston, has been gazetted Major.

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A caretaker for the city drill shed will likely be selected from one of the staff sergeants of A. Battery.

STIENSALES.

TORONTO.

If the Toronto regiments do spend a good portion of their time in fitting themselves for their duties, they certainly know how to enjoy the repose which during the winter months their exertions during the drill season entitles them to, for never before was so much festivity crowded into the dull season, as has been crowded into this one.

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The annual dinner of "F. Co.," Q.O.R., which was held at Webb's on Tuesday, the 21st inst., easily ranks as one of the best that have been held in the history of the regiment. Capt. McGee occupied the chair, and around him were gathered a genial company of about 80, amongst whom were

Lt.-Col. Hamilton, Major Buchan, C. R. I., Capts. Murray, Bennett, A. B. Lee, jr., Mason, Quartermaster Heakes, Capt. and Adjutant Mercer, Lieuts. Wyatt, Crean and Davison, Ex-Lieut. Baird, Ex-Col. Serjts. Forester and Austin, Ex-Sergt. Gibson, Ex-Sergt. McIntosh, Mr. W. Parsons, Sergt.-Major George, and Bugle-Major Swift.

Letters of regret were read from Lieut.-Col. Otter, D. A. G., Ex-Capt. Boulton, Ex-Col. Sergt. Ham, and Capt. Harrison, G. A., St. John, N.B.

After an irreproachable menu had been thoroughly discussed, the toast list was entered upon, that of "The Queen" being received with the usual honors.

"The Commanding Officer and Staff," proposed by Capt. McGee, was responded to by Lieut.-Col. Hamilton, an old member of No. 6, and Capt. Mercer.

"Our Guests," was proposed by Sergt. Saunders, and was neatly responded to by Major Buchan, C. R. I., and a former Adjutant of the regiment.

The toast of "Ex-members," was proposed by Lieut. Wyatt, and responded to by Capts. Murray and Mason, Ex-Sergt. Gibson and Sergt.-Major George.

"The Ladies" was ably proposed by Lieut. J. Davison, and as ably responded to by Corp. Bedford Jones.

Interspersing the toasts were songs and recitations from Bugler Baker, Pte. S. Wilson, and Mr. C. Smith.

After the tables were cleared, a couple of hours were pleasantly spent in singing, recitations, dancing, and the many other ways which the members of the Q. O. R. are alone adepts at.

Capt. McGee was the recipient of many congratulations on the splendid showing of F. Co. during 1892,—the average attendance being 54 out of a possible 60, and the percentage of drills performed being 92.6.

F. Co. has given three Colonels to the Regiment, and of the present officers 2 Staff Officers and 5 Captains out of the ten were at one time members of this Company.

Another cause for congratulation was the parade of last Thanksgiving Day, when, despite the stormy day, 25 files out of their 28, were on parade.

The Committee, to whose efforts were due the success of the dinner, were Lieut. Wyatt, Col.-Sergt. Agnew, Secretary Sergt. Cockburn, Corp. Niblock, Pte. Andrews and Pte. Wright.

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The Sergeants of the Queen's Own are nowhere if they are not abreast of the times, and the success of their "At Home" on Thursday afternoon is simply another example of whatever they undertake, the result is always the same. It seems to have been the custom this season, at any public dinner, to allow the ladies the use of the gallery, and from there to enjoy the appearance of their male friends taking still more enjoyment out of the substantial repast which was served to them. The Sergeants thought that this idea could be improved upon, by inviting their lady friends to something much more substantial and enjoyable, and, with that object in view, threw open the hospitable doors of their handsome and splendidly decorated rooms from 4 to 7 p.m. Despite the blizzard that was raging all day, and of such strength as to demoralize all traffic, upwards of 200 guests were received and their wants well catered for.

The guests were received by Sergt.-Major and Mrs. H. M. George, who were ably assisted by Mrs. R. B. Hamilton, Mrs. H. M. Pellatt, and Mrs. A. Denison. Last year the initial reception was such a crowded affair, that instead of having it on the afternoon of the Annual Dinner, the day before was chosen, for the reason that more space was wanted than could be procured when the tables were all laid out, and, as was proven, the decision was a wise one.

It was the unanimous verdict of all the ladies present that at last they could see what it was that inspired such a fondness for going down to "The Mess" among the Sergeants, and many were they who wished that there were places as cosy and comfortable which they might take advantage of, and thereby equalize matters.

The shooting trophies which are in the possession of the different members (and they make an imposing show), were nicely laid out on the Pool and Billiard tables and flanked by piles of arms, the whole making a very pretty picture. A "Bouffe" was going and was liberally patronised all the afternoon, Caterer Tasker giving every satisfaction; and an efficient orchestra filled in many spare crevices with remarkable good music, so good in fact, that it could not be resisted