

DINNER BY THE MEMBERS OF THE 49TH BATTALION.

We have previously noticed the arrival of a party from Thunder Bay, among whom was Edward Harrison, Esq., of Belleville, an officer of the 49th Battalion, Ontario Rifles. A few days after getting here he was waited upon by a number of the non commissioned officers and men of the 1st Ontario Rifles, formerly of the 49th, Hastings Battalion, and cordially invited him to partake of their good will, in the shape of a dinner at Davis' Hotel, upon an evening named. The invitation having been accepted, at about 9 o'clock in the evening the company sat down to partake of the good things provided by mine host, Mr. Davis. Q. M. Sergt. Massey, late 49th, occupied the chair, while the duties of the vice-chair were alike ably performed by Armorer Sergt. Vandervoort, also of the 49th Battalion. Among the guests who were present we noticed upon the right of the Chairman the guest of the evening, a mile upon the left we noticed Dr. Campbell and several officers of the regiment, including Capt. McDonald (late 16th regiment), Lieuts. Walker and McDonald, and Ensigns Bell and Biggar, also Mr. Cunningham, correspondent of the *Toronto Telegraph*, and others. After the good things had been duly partaken of, the Chairman arose and in a few brief but well-timed remarks, called upon the company to drink the first toast of the evening, "The Queen—the best of all earthly sovereigns," which being drunk to with much enthusiasm, was followed by the National Anthem, the solo being finely rendered by Dr. Campbell, the whole assembly joining in the chorus. The next toast from the chair was, "The Army and Navy," briefly but capitally responded to, with naval song, by Sergt. Jas. War, followed by, "The Officers of our Regiment," from the vice-chair, responded to severally by Capt. McDonald, Lieuts. MacDonald and Walker, and Ensigns Bell and Biggar, after which the Chairman arose, and in a few words touching upon the object of the meeting, said that as officers and men of the Ontario Rifles, formerly connected with the 49th Battalion, they were met together this evening to do honor to a comrade in arms and an officer in the same regiment to which they had until recently belonged, a gentleman who like themselves had travelled over the long and tedious route leading from Canada to the Red River country; a gentleman whom they, as citizens of Belleville, cordially welcomed among them; and one whom he was proud to think was their guest this evening. The Chairman then turning towards the guest of the evening, read the following address, signed by Q. M. S. Massey (late 49th) on behalf of his comrades:

Edward Harrison, Esq., 49th Battalion.

Having left our homes to offer our humble but willing services to our beloved country, having traversed a dreary wilderness of rock and watercourse, and now sojourning in a land of strangers, it gives us peculiar joy to meet one whose form is familiar, and whose face recalls pleasant memories of home and friends.

You come here with friendly feelings towards us for the purpose of cheering us in the performance of our military duties, and to remind us that though far distant, we are not forgotten in the place from whence we come, and we cannot allow this opportunity to pass without in some degree giving expression to the unmixed pleasure your visit

affords us. While conversing with you we feel that we speak to one who links us to home and friends; we feel especially that you are come from that dear old corps of which we are, we feel but humble representatives. We welcome you gratefully and trust that you will carry back to our homes and yours pleasant memories of your visit to us. We shall ever cherish your kind greeting and deep interest in our welfare and condition, and you may take back with you to our old comrades and friends the assurance of our kindest remembrances. Hoping you will enjoy your excursion, and particularly this your first visit to Fort Garry, we bid you once more a hearty welcome amongst us."

To which Mr. Harrison replied as follows: *Mr. Chairman, Non-commissioned Officers and Men of the 1st Ontario Rifles, my late comrades in arms of the 49th Battalion.*

FRIENDS AND GUESTS.—In the life of every individual whether soldier or civilian, there are some bright spots to be met with when traversing alone the voyage through life; and no matter how dark and gloomy the situations of a man may at times appear, there are few indeed, I would venture to say who, were they called upon to pen his biography, but would admit of some circumstance or event in their lifetime which afforded at least a time of sunshine to their existence. There is an old saying, doubtless familiar to all of you, that "there's a silver lining to every cloud;" and so it is that after a long and toilsome journey—a journey the attendant dangers and hardships of which you have all here shared—that the smiling faces and outstretched hands of welcoming friends when far from home as I am to-night are rendered doubly dear.

Comrades and Friends.—It was with feelings of no little surprise, mingled with pleasure and regret, that I found myself waited upon by several of your number and invited to meet you upon the present occasion. I have said surprise, because I have yet to learn of any act of mine own that could elicit at your hands such a hearty expression of friendship and good will as has attended me upon my arrival among you; regret, when I think that there is not present some more worthy member of the old corps to share with me the friendship and hospitality which you so warmly extend to me this evening.

From you, my late comrades of the 49th, I accept with deep feelings of gratification this proof of your good will, because I know and feel that the kindness and friendship you have shown me is but a type of what would be extended to every officer and man of the corps who might chance to visit you; and I can readily imagine with what pleasure Col. Brown and the officers of the regiment will learn of the handsome reception of one of their number on this his first visit to Fort Garry.

It is indeed a pleasure to see about me this evening not only faces familiar in the corps with which I am connected, but also others whom I recognize as having served in the 15th and 16th Battalions.

[Here Mr. Harrison addressed himself particularly to the men of the 49th, and read a letter giving an account of the changes that had taken place in their regiment. A number of Volunteer toasts, songs and speeches closed the evening's entertainment.]—*Manitoban News Letter.*

The Czar continues to bestow honours upon the Prussian Princes successful in the field of battle. He has just made "Our Fritz" a Field Marshal.

"OUR IMPROVED CREDIT."

Secretary Boutwell's policy is to pay one dollar and x cents for a promise to pay one dollar, charge the one dollar and x cents paid against the one dollar to be paid, and then, like Mr. Merryman in the circus ring, exclaim "Here we are again!"—another large instalment of the debt paid. For the wisdom of all this let us compare what Mr. Boutwell has done with what the financiers of Europe think. Mr. Boutwell's account stands:

Bonds purchased May, 1869, to July, 1870, both inclusive	\$131,802,650 00
Premium paid on same	18,862,321 66
Total	150,664,971 66
Or:	
Amount paid by the people of the United States	\$150,664,971 66
Amount promised by the people of the United States	131,802,650 00

Amount overpaid, per Mr. Boutwell

But, it may be observed while the \$131,802,650 certainly paid off that amount of bonds the \$18,862,321.66 just as certainly raised the credit of the United States five-twentieths of 1862, from 82 in London on the 4th of March, 1869, to 90½ on the 5th of July, 1870. If so, how comes it that in London, on the 15th July, 1870, when the Franco Prussian war broke out, these same bonds declined to 80? It was one of Mr. Boutwell's commendations of his policy that by paying one dollar and x cents where but one dollar has been promised the credit of the United States would be so strengthened that, in the event of a war abroad, it would go up like a balloon under the exhilarating influence of a foreign pressure to invest. But the war came, and despite the expenditure of \$150,000,000 under Mr. Boutwell's policy, our bonds fell two per cent below their quotation in March 1869, before that policy had begun to operate at all.

True, by a further operation of the policy, by more paying one dollar and x cents for one dollar promised. United States five-twentieths of 1862 were screwed up abroad from 80 on the 15th July, 1870, to 89½ on the 1st of November, 1870; but on the 19th following another war impends, another opportunity is afforded foreign capital to approve its confidence in our credit, and down go our bonds to 86½—a fall of 3 per cent in November on a rumor of war, as in July they fell 10½ per cent. on actual hostilities. *N. Y. World.*

According to "Voss's Gazette," the German soldiers now in France and fit for service number 690,000, while there are 160,000 horses. The daily requirements of these forces are 250,000 loaves of bread, 185 oxen, 400 cwt. of bacon, 550 cwt. of rice, 160,000 quarts of brandy, and 50 cwt. of coffee, 68,000 cwt. of hay, and large quantities of oats and straw.

During his imprisonment in Metz, the Legion d'Honneur was freely given away by Bazaine. The day before the capitulation a certain M. Bouchette was to receive this order for eminent qualities displayed in the service of the town during its investment. He, however, declined the honor with the following remark:—"I will not receive a decoration signed by the same hand which has signed the capitulation of Metz."