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News of the Service.

NOTE.—Our readers are respectfully requested to contribute to this department all items of Military News affecting their own corps, districts or friends, coming under their notice. Without we are assisted in this way we cannot make this department as complete as we would desire. Remember that all the doings of every corps are of general interest throughout the entire militia force. You can mail a large package of manuscript, so long as not enclosed in an envelope, for one cent. At any rate, forward copies of your local papers with all references to your corps and your comrades. Address.

EDITOR, CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE

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Halifax N. S.

I am glad to see that the suggestion of "Gravelcrusher" in your columns, a short time ago, re the re-naming of the Dominion Artillery Brigades, has been carried out.

The only war preparations made down this way was the appointment last month of a man to fill the place of the late Mr. Mulvena at the Militia Store, and the discharge this month, on reducing the establishment, of a young and active man who has been employed here for over 10 years, whilst the old man engaged last month, was kept on. There is something in this that we outsiders cannot understand.

On the 27th ult., Private Hayworth, Berkshire Regt., died from typhoid fever and was buried with the usual military honours. This is the first death in the Berks since its arrival here.

Band Sergeant Sheehan, late Kings Regt., has been appointed bandmaster of the 63rd Halifax Rifles. Let us hope he will improve the appearance of the band, for from the remarks I have heard as to their appearance at the last Guard of Honour there is lots of room for improvement, in the cleanliness of its uniforms and instruments.

On the 9th inst., the 63rd furnished a Guard of Honour under command of Capt. Dixon, to attend His Honour the Lieut. Governor on the occasion of opening the local legislature. The Guard was up to strength and looked clean and natty.

The 1st Halifax Regt. Canadian Artillery, (late H. G. A.) fired the usual salute.

The N. C. officers 1st Canadian Artillery held a meeting on the 10th inst., to make arrangements for their annual sleigh drive and dinner. It was decided to hold it on the 23rd inst., weather permitting.

The officers 1st Canadian Artillery are holding their annual meeting on the 13th inst.

Lieut. Col. Curren has a class of provisional officers of his corps under his instruction. He is preparing them for their exam at Quebec where they intend going in the spring.

GRAVELCRUSHER.

Hamilton.

The sergeants of the 13th regiment made a call upon their new commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. Moore, on New Year's day, to congratulate him upon assuming the command and to wish him every success. An hour or so was spent very pleasantly. They then paid a visit to their old commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. Gibson, and were received by him and Mrs. Gibson. The president of the mess, after wishing them a very happy new year, expressed the regret of the sergeants in parting with their colonel—a regret, he said, felt by one and all throughout the regiment. Refreshments were partaken of at both houses, and the morning's outing was declared a huge success.

The officers of the 13th gave their second ball of the season on Friday night, Jan. 3rd, in the armory, which had been exquisitely decorated for the occasion. Colored bunting was draped from the ceiling. At each of the four corners of the dancing floor was a large cannon, which, with the bright uniforms of the officers, gave the affair a military color. Dancing began shortly after 9 o'clock.

The first set was composed of Lieut.-Col. Moore and Mrs. Gibson, Lieut.-Col. Gibson and Mrs. J. J. Mason, Judge Snider and Mrs. Forneret, H. C. Baker and Mrs. R. A. Lucas, Sheriff and Mrs. Murton, Major McLaren and Mrs. W. A. Logie, Dr. Rennie and Miss Bell, Dr. and Mrs. Griffin.

The dance was a huge success in every way and reflected great credit on all con-

cerned—nearly 300 people being present.

The lady patronesses were: Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. H. McLaren, Mrs. J. J. Mason, Mrs. J. J. Stuart.

The stewards were: Dr. Griffin, Capt. Mewburn, Capt. Labatt, Lieut. Herring, Lieut. Fearman, Lieut. Lester, Dr. Rennie, Lieut. King.

Dr. Rennie, the secretary, was indefatigable, and it was largely due to his efforts that the event was such a social hit.

Kingston.

KINGSTON, Jan. 11th.—There are at present sixteen short course men at Tote du Pont barracks. They come from all parts of the country, from Guelph to Winnipeg. In all sixty applications have been received, and of the applicants twenty-nine were successful.

Driver Stark of "A" Field Battery, has been promoted to the rank of bombardier.

Gunner Pringle of "A" Battery was caught rifling his comrades' kits, a few days ago, and will be tried by court-martial for the offence.

Lt.-Col. Smith, commanding the 11th P.W.O.R., called a meeting of his officers, some time ago, to discuss the question of the reorganization of the battalion. A second meeting was to have been held shortly after the preliminary one, but it has not yet taken place, and some of the officers believe that the existing system will be continued. The officers decline to say what changes were proposed.

Driver Lawrence, who deserted from "A" Field Battery, early last spring, returned to Tote du Pont barracks, and gave himself up yesterday.

Certain officers of the 11th Batt. P.W. O.R., are "down on Velette," because of the disgraceful conduct of a fresh sergeant of the corps on the night of the reception to Major-General and Mrs. Gascoigne, was censured in the Kingston correspondence of the MILITARY GAZETTE. Of course, the gentlemen in question expect ordinary mortals to gaze with fear and trembling, mingled with open-mouthed, inexpressible admiration, upon their lordly forms when encased in their uniforms, and to howl loudly in approval of