

Battalion Correspondence.

[We shall be obliged if an officer in each Battalion will give us a report, as briefly as consistent with the facts, of any events of interest which take place in his corps, and beg to tender our thanks for favors received.]

TO CORRESPONDENTS

CAPT. M., Montreal.—Before receiving your communication, we had the substance in type. Much obliged, and shall be glad to hear from you at all times.

"DEN," Hamilton.—Will attend to the subject next week.

FROM MONTREAL.

VOLUNTEERS ON SNOW-SHOWS.—A twenty-mile snow-shoe tramp across county from Montreal to Chambly was admirably accomplished by a detachment of the Victoria Rifle Regiment of Montreal, under command of their efficient and respected officer, Major Hutton, who is at present in command of the corps—"the Colonel being absent on leave." The march was executed in the short space of four hours, without a straggler, and all as jolly, good-natured and happy as Canadian Volunteers should be, and are; smoking, laughing, singing, joking. Over fence, across field; a kind word for the farmer's pretty daughter, who rushes to the gate to see our gallant defenders pass. Not fagged out by any means, and only reminded of their journey's end by a sharp-eyed corporal, who sings out, "Chambly ahead, men!" "Don't see it," says a bulky private. "Bet you a supper I'm right," insists the non-com., as on they trudge. There is no asking passers-by how far to the place of destination, as they move along, their only fear being a too speedy termination of their afternoon's sport—for such it was. Arriving at Chambly, they occupy the barracks at that place. The following day, church parade is ordered, and the company attend divine service at the Episcopal Church of the village, returning home the following day. [Here is a little sketch of the march of an afternoon, showing the capacity of our soldiers to endure fatigue. As a fighter we have no fear that the Canadian will be found wanting; and our enemies may yet have to acknowledge their handsome pluck.]

SCHOOL OF GUNNERY.—In addition to the Military school in Montreal, there has recently been established a school of gunnery, under the charge of Lieut.-Col. Pilon, who, since his first arrival in the country, has manifested a deep and practical interest in the Volunteers. The Montreal Skating Rink, situated in St. Urbain street, has been fitted up by boarding the floor with thick plank. It affords a space of 200 by 40 feet. There are placed four siege guns in position, a mortar and garrison guns, together with sling waggons, tripod, and every appliance for transport or mounting of guns. The school is attended by the officers of the Montreal Garrison Artillery, Grand Trunk Railway Brigade, the Volunteer Engineers, and other corps. For officers, the drill is three times weekly in the afternoon, and for gunners three times weekly in the evening. The drill consists in mounting and dismounting guns, serving guns and mortars, mode of preparing ammunition, splicing and knotting of all kinds. Every attendant must first understand the drill thoroughly, and next must be able to instruct in every movement a squad of recruits. The instruction is conducted by a sergeant-major of the Royal Artillery, under Col. Pilon, who is present at every drill, giving personal supervision. Certificates of first class will be issued to those competent to instruct in mortar, garrison and siege gun drill, and second class

to those competent to instruct in garrison. No remuneration is granted to any, it being purely voluntary. About fifty have availed themselves of the advantages of Col. Pilon's instructions.

FROM METCALFE.

MILITARY CONCERT AND SOIREE.—On Wednesday evening last, a grand military soiree and concert came off in the village of Metcalfe, County of Russell, in aid of the new drill-shed for the Metcalfe Volunteer Infantry Company. The hall was completely packed. There were on the Platform: Lieut.-Col. Jackson, Brigade-Major; Major Seale, Carleton Battalion; Capt. Smythe, 100th Regiment; Mr. R. Bell, M. P. P.; Judge Armstrong, Ottawa; Hon. Malcolm Cameron, Capt. Sheppard, Burritt's Rapids; Capt. Johnston, North Gower; Capt. Davidson, Munotie; Captain Morgan, Rev. Mr. Whyte, Metcalfe; Captain McGregor, Vernon; Lieut. Hanna, Metcalfe; Lieut. Helmer, Russell; Lieut. Palmer, North Gower; Mr. Fleming; Ensign Carson, Metcalfe; Mr. G. Bouchette, Mr. James Audy and Mr. George Moss, Ottawa. We regret we have not space for the excellent and patriotic speeches delivered on the occasion. Mrs. Miles, of Ottawa, and Mrs. Hanna, of Metcalfe, presided at the instruments, and sang several songs in excellent taste. The room was beautifully decorated, and presented a splendid appearance. Previous to the concert, the company was inspected by the Brigade Major, who spoke in high terms of it. There were about forty—officers and men—on parade. Under Capt. Morgan and his excellent subalterns, there is no doubt the Metcalfe Infantry Company will continue to be a credit to the battalion.

FROM SARNIA.

VOLUNTEER BALL.—On Wednesday last, the Sarnia Garrison Battery of Artillery, under command of Capt. O'Doherty, gave their first annual ball at the Bellechamber House. Bellechamber's large dining hall was gracefully decorated for the occasion with numerous flags, &c. Dancing began at half-past 9 o'clock, and was kept up with much spirit until the gray streaks in the eastern horizon proclaimed the near approach of day. The supper was everything that could be desired, having been got up in Bellechamber's usual good style. A number of the officers of the Lambton Battalion were present, and among them the officer in command, Lieut.-Col. Davis, who, from the active manner in which he participated in the dances, appeared thoroughly to enjoy himself. The hall was crammed to excess; and the rich uniforms of the artillery, mingled with the bright scarlet of the infantry, contrasted beautifully with the gay and elegant dresses of the ladies. Everything passed off harmoniously, and all present appeared fully to enjoy themselves. The company has been organized only a short time, and has already become very proficient in drill. This was their first annual ball, and if all their undertakings or engagements are attended with the same satisfactory result, they will reflect credit on themselves and on the town to which they belong.

FROM HAMILTON.

13TH BATTALION.—The dissatisfaction spoken of last week, in regard to the Spencer rifles, was only momentary, it having been written with the idea that they were to be the permanent arm for the force. As it is said that they are to be replaced by the Peabody or Snider rifles as soon as possible, of course all cause for dissatisfaction has been removed.

FROM INGERSOLL.

INGERSOLL RIFLES.—A meeting of the above company took place on Monday evening, 25th February. The turn-out was all that could be desired, and better than was expected by the officers. The Captain took advantage of the large attendance to introduce to the company their new Ensign, Mr. James Benson, formerly Adjutant of the Tenth Royals, Toronto. He is a thorough soldier, and an honor to the battalion which he has joined. After a short time spent in drill, the company spent the remainder of the evening in singing some of their old favorite frontier songs for the benefit of their new Ensign and the citizens. They finally dispersed, well pleased with things in general, and ready to rally at the first warning notes of the bugle for the defence of their country.

FROM PARIS.

No. 1 COMPANY, 38TH BATT.—At the inspection (noticed last week) by Lieut.-Col. Durie, A. A. G., accompanied by Brigade-Major Villiers, that officer expressed himself pleased with the efficient state in which he found the company, and complimented Captain Baird, the officers and men of the company upon the very marked improvement which he observed since his last visit. This company is one of the oldest in the force, having been raised by Captain McCartney, now of the 100th Regiment, in the year 1856, and has been in working order ever since.

FROM GUELPH.

GRAND MILITARY BALL.—The Guelph Rifle Company celebrated their twelfth anniversary, and also the departure of the company for the front a year ago, on Friday evening last, by a grand ball and supper. The affair was under the patronage of the staff of the Wellington Battalion, and was an exceedingly pleasant one.

INSPECTIONS.

Lieut.-Col. Jackson, Brigade-Major, on the 4th inst., inspected Capt. Johnson's Company, at Miller's Corners. There was a full parade, and both officers and men were complimented by the inspecting officer for their regularity and efficiency.

The same officer, on the 4th, inspected a new company at Vernon, commanded by Captain McGregor, which had but recently received their clothing. They are a splendid body of men, and will, with experience in their duties, be one of the finest corps in the Province.

Col. Jackson will inspect the Ottawa Garrison Battery on Monday (to-day).

The Buckingham Infantry Company, Capt. McNaughton, on Tuesday.

The Goulbourne and Richmond Companies on Wednesday.

The Huntly and Bell's Corners Companies on Thursday.

The two Rifle Companies and Field Battery at Ottawa on Thursday.

The Wakefield Infantry Company on Friday

No. 7 COMPANY.—On Saturday evening last we had for the first time the pleasure of seeing the Colborne Volunteers under arms. They were drilled by Capt. Smith, Adjutant of the battalion, and certainly showed a degree of steadiness and attention which we have never seen excelled in either city or country. An improvement on the present attendance is desirable, if we are to compare favorably with other places on the 24th of May.—[Express.]