

I forward this letter by Captain Malhiot, the Adjutant of the Battalion, who will be happy to charge himself with any communication from you on his return.

I have, &c.

THOS. WILY, Lt. Col.,
Commanding V. M. R. Co's.

Maj.-Gen. WENDELL P. SMITH,
Comm'g 5th Division Vol. Mil. of Maine.

On the 27th July, the following reply to the application of the 20th instant was received :—

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Toronto, 27th July, 1858.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd instant, and its enclosures, requesting permission for between 150 and 200 men of the different Rifle Companies in Montreal, to proceed on an excursion to Portland, in the United States, in marching order, properly armed and equipped; and in reply, I am directed by His Excellency the Right Hon. the Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief, to request you will express to the Commandant of the Active Force of Montreal His Excellency's regret that he cannot grant this permission, as he does not think it would be right to allow an armed military body to enter the United States.

I have, &c.

A. DE SALABERRY, Lt. Col.,
D. A. G. Militia, L. C.

Major SPONG,
Asst. Adjt.-Gen. Militia, 9th Military District.

The receipt of this letter caused no little excitement amongst the Rifles, who thus saw themselves apparently balked of their intended excursion, and stopped at its very threshold. A meeting of the Committee was held, and the Lt. Colonel was requested to see the Commandant, and urge upon him the necessity of making a renewed application to the Deputy Adjutant General of Militia, respectfully calling upon the latter to again bring the matter under the notice of His Excellency, for the purpose of reconsidering his decision and granting the permission required. The Commandant at once entered warmly into their feelings,