

Early in the season it was deemed advisable to resume operations against Fort du Quesne, and Brigadier General Forbes was appointed to command an expeditionary force against it. The Province of Pennsylvania was to be the base of operations on this occasion and did not detract from its previous character for procrastination notwithstanding its sufferings. Although Forbes was in Philadelphia early in April, it was the 7th of June before the troops were assembled, and the 14th of the same month when the artillery and stores were landed from England, on the 30th of June the troops marched from Philadelphia. This army consisted of 6,350 men, and had a march before it of 309 miles through a comparative wilderness over the ranges and through the defiles of the Alleghany mountains. As a military movement it was far more hazardous and unscientific than that under Braddock and infinitely more fatiguing; it involved the cutting of an entirely new road for over 100 miles of difficult country, and if the Indians had been as zealous in their support of the French cause not a man of the imposing force marched into those wilds would have left them except as a prisoner, because in the event of defeat there was no place to fall back on. In addition to the fall of Frontenac the Indians were alienated by other circumstances; the Mohawks, Oneidas and Tuscaroras remained faithful to the British Crown throughout the struggle, and they were allied to the Senecas, Cayugas, Delawares, and Shawnees who were active on the French side. Late in 1757 the Delawares intercepted a French dispatch, in which the project was proposed and discussed of cutting off and utterly exterminating the Six Nations (the English allies). The Indians found some one among them to read the document and they no sooner understood its full purport than they repaired to du Quesne and charged the commander, M. Dumas, with the proposal; he was utterly thrown off his guard, and endeavored to get the document from them, but to no purpose; they spread abroad a knowledge of its contents which were a source of keen discussion to the astute savages. About the same time a party of the Miamies, in a frolic near the Fort, killed a number of cattle belonging to the garrison, who, in a moment of exasperation, fired on the aggressors and killed some 10 or 12 of their number; these circumstances combining brought about a general council at Easton, in October 1758, at which the greater part of the tribes pledged themselves to a new treaty, thus depriving the French of valuable aid at the most critical period of the contest.

As a consequence the march of Forbes's army was comparatively unmolested; at the close of September the troops had reached Rayston, 90 miles from du Quesne, here he halted and detached Colonel Boquet with 2000 men to occupy Loyal Hanna, a post within 40 miles of the French Fort. While here preparing an intrenchment and opening a road he received intelligence which induced him to send 1000 men under Major Grant to reconnoitre the Fort and its outworks, and so badly served were the French by the disaffected Indian allies that he reached a position within one mile of the Fort without being discovered. It was this officer's intention to attack the Fort by night, and he sought to be guided by the fires of the savages who camped around the works, but those gentry, perfectly conscious of his presence, let the fires burn out and quietly retired across the river, thus maintaining their neutrality. In the morning Grant drew up his men near the Fort and beat a march much to the astonishment of

the French Commandant de Ligneris who had succeeded Dumas; but he at once accepted the challenge with the whole garrison amounting to over 800 men aided by the artillery of the Fort, he was not long before he obtained a complete victory, killing nearly 300 men, capturing a large number of prisoners and 19 officers, amongst whom was Major Grant, the rest succeeded in reaching Loyal Hanna. On the 5th of November the main army reached Loyal Hanna and Forbes, whose constitution had given way, was about to put the troops into winter quarters when he obtained intelligence which induced him to move forward on du Quesne at once, it was that the savages had retired altogether, that the reinforcements which crushed Grant's detachment had been called in and that scarcely 500 men remained in the Fort. Leaving his tents and heaviest baggage behind he advanced by forced marches to du Quesne with all his troops and light artillery, and on the 25th in the morning came in sight of the Fort on fire and the last batteaux of its garrison disappearing down the Ohio on the way to their settlements on the Mississippi.

The Red Cross of England floated over the ruins which were rebuilt by Forbes and named Fort Pitt, now the City of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania. This action closed the Campaign of 1758, so full of honor to the French arms and of disaster to their possessions in America. The fall of Frontenac shook their power to its centre, that of du Quesne completely overthrew it in the West.

BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM BROCKVILLE.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ST. LAWRENCE RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of this Association was held a few days since in the Militia Brigade Office, when the following officers were appointed, viz.: Lieut.-Col. Buell, President, (re elected); Major McKechnie, Captains Cole and Worsley, and the Mayor of Brockville, Vice Presidents, Captain Redmond, Secretary and Treasurer. During the existence of this Association, the annual matches have been holden alternately at Brockville, Cornwall and Prescott. Last year, however, none of the towns would undertake to raise the required sum of money to insure a successful meeting, consequently the members present thought it advisable to make the Association more local, and changed the name to the Brockville Rifle Association.

The following officers were elected honorary members of the Council, viz., Lieut.-Col. Atcherley, D. A. A. G., Lieut.-Col. Jackson, Brigade Major, Lieut.-Col. Macdougall, District Paymaster, and Lieut. Col. Crawford, 41st Battalion.

COUNCIL.

William Fitzsimmons, M. L. A., Majors Abbott and Wylie, Captains Young, McCan, Bell, McDonald, McMullen and Stoddart, Lieutenants Grioves, Wells and Wilkinson, Quartermaster Dana and Jones, T. Price, C. F. Fraser, A. B. Dana, C. Fletcher, J. Stagg, Jnr., and J. Carron, Esqs,

With the view of learning what action the Council of the Dominion Association will take at their adjourned meeting on the 2nd of May, the meeting adjourned, with the understanding that the Council should meet on the 12th of May, when they will make the necessary arrangements for, and fix the time for holding the annual match.

FROM CHIPPAWA.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Notice having appeared in the *Gazette* to the effect that officers commanding Companies might proceed with their annual drill when most convenient to them, the Chippawa, or No. 3 Company, 44th Welland Battalion, mustered in full strength at the Drill Room on Monday the 30th ult. The officer in command, Captain Macklon, thought it better to complete the drill at once than to muster at intervals, as there are many men belonging to the company who live at a distance, and to whom the attendance at drill is accompanied with some expense. The hours for parade were at seven o'clock, a. m., when the men were instructed in squad drill, with intervals, and in single rank until 8.30 a. At 10 o'clock they mustered for squad drill with arms, in two ranks, until 12, when they were dismissed until half past two. The bugle call found them fully equipped and ready for inspection, after which they were exercised most thoroughly in company and Light Infantry movements, until five, when they were dismissed again for the night. At nine o'clock, p. m., a patrol was sent out with instructions to visit every saloon and tavern, and to the credit of the men, be it said, that not a single instance of irregularity occurred during the eight days they were in uniform. On Saturday, the 4th inst., the company was marched to the Falls, and inspected by Lieut.-Col. Barnett in the manual and platoon exercises, both of which were performed very creditably, and to the entire satisfaction of Col. Barnett, who expressed his great pleasure at the proficiency and soldier-like appearance of the men, promising to make a favorable report to Headquarters. He also expressed great surprise at the wonderful difference six days had made. At five o'clock, after giving three rousing choers for the Queen, Col. Barnett and the officers, the men were finally dismissed, many expressing a regret that the drill with which they were much pleased, could not last longer. Permit me to say that if all the companies in Canada, especially country ones, adopted this plan instead of extending the drill over many weeks, it would prove much more beneficial, as men must of a necessity forget a great deal, particularly when the instruction is carried from week to week. Eight days steady drill, in my opinion, would make men more effective than two in each week—a plan some companies have adopted.

VOLUNTEER.