

## Presentation of Colours to the 48th Highlanders, TORONTO.

By no means the least appreciated part of the celebration of the 24th of May, was the combined parade at the Cricket grounds, of the 13th Battalion, Hamilton, and the 48th Highlanders, the former corps being present to witness the presentation of colours to the 48th Highlanders by Mrs. H. K. Merritt on behalf of the lady friends of the regiment. The 13th Battalion paraded at their armoury at 4.30 a.m. and arrived in Toronto by the steamer Modjeska about 7.30 a.m. After marching to the Drill Shed and leaving great coats, and haversacks, the parade reformed and marched to King and Simcoe streets where the 48th had paraded at 8.30. The route was then taken via Simcoe, Queen, McCaul, College and George streets to the Cricket Grounds, where the parade ground had been staked and roped off by a squad of 50 police under Lieut.-Col. Grasett and Deputy Chief Stuart.

On entering the enclosure the 48th formed line on the southern half of the oblong facing west, the 13th moving in rear and taking up position on their right, occupying the northern half and facing south and west.

On the western side a separate enclosure was roped off for the invited guests and subscribers, of which a large number were present on the arrival of the regiments.

Lieut.-Col. Otter, D.A.G., with Major Buchan, R.S.I. and Capt. Hendrie, Hamilton F.B., were awaiting the arrival of the regiments and the line was dressed and took open order. After a short wait the carriage containing the Governor-General and suite were sighted, and the brigade were called to attention, came to the shoulder and the present; the band of the 13th playing the first six bars of the National Anthem, announced to the large crowd of spectators that His Excellency had arrived and that the first part of the programme was about to begin.

After the general salute, Lord Stanley, who wore the uniform of Colonel 4th Battalion King's Own Militia and wore the star of the G.C.B., accompanied by Major St. Aubyn, Lord Kilcourse and Capt. Walsh, A.D.C.'s, and by the commanding officers, marched along the line and inspected both regiments, and it was remarked that the party inspected with more than usual interest the new battalion which made such a creditable appearance within six months of its inception.

The inspection over, the 48th formed three sides of a hollow square imme-

diately in front of the centre of the reserved enclosure; the drums were then piled in the centre of what would be the fourth side of the square.

The colours were then brought forward by Colour-Sergts. Simpson and Rose, and after being uncased were laid across the pile of drums. Majors Crosby and Macdonald then formed up on the left and right, with the colour party, consisting of Lieuts. McLean and Donald and Col.-Sergts. Simpson and Rose, in rear of the drums.

The Rev. D. J. McDonnell then consecrated the colours with prayer.

Major Crosby then handed the Queen's colour to Lord Stanley who advanced to where the colour party were kneeling and presented it to Lieut. McLean. Major Macdonald handed the regimental colour to Mrs. H. K. Merritt who handed it to Lord Stanley, who in turn advanced and presented it to Lieut. Donald. His Excellency then addressed the regiment in terms suitable to the occasion; after a brief reply from Lieut.-Col. Davidson the colour party turned about and took up their place in line, being received with the general salute, the 13th band playing the first six bars of the National Anthem.

Quarter colour on No. 1 company was then formed by both regiments and the march past in column and quarter column was performed, after which the brigade advanced in review order. Column of route was then formed, and the 13th Battalion leading, the same route was taken on leaving as on reaching the ground.

At the foot of Simcoe street the 13th Battalion halted and fronted, coming to the shoulder as the "Kilties" marched passed them.

The Highlanders paraded 317 strong, Lieut.-Col. Davidson in command, with the following Staff Officers: Majors Crosby and Macdonald, Capt. and Adjutant McDougall, No. 2 Co. I.S.C., Capt. Macdonald, Surgeons Stuart and Dane, Quartermaster Adams and Rev. D. J. Macdonell. The men wore the new feather bonnets for the second time, and the appearance of the corps was certainly very creditable. Granted that there was a difference, and a noticeable one too, between the manual exercise of the 13th Battalion and the 48th,—considering the short time the latter regiment has been formed and that this was their first public parade, the 13th were not much ahead, and the results of the hard work and painstaking efforts of Capt.

Macdougall showed very plainly. When one knows that the greater majority of these men had never handled a rifle six months ago and many of them are well up in years, the results of Tuesday's parade should prove highly satisfactory to all concerned.

The marching was exceedingly good, the distance and dressing only fairly well kept, and carelessness was noticed in the slope of the rifles. Nervousness and the results of a lack of battalion drill could be noticed, and the hesitating way in which some of the officers gave their commands would alone be responsible for the loose or careless manner in which they were executed. The parade of the 13th Battalion, while very creditable taking every thing into consideration, was scarcely up to the form one would expect to see, and irregularity was noticeable both in the slope of the rifles and dressing of sections in going to and returning from the grounds. A peculiarity which struck many was the extreme slowness of step. Both brass and bugle bands are in rattling good shape, the brass band being exceptionally so, but the pace was more like 21 than 30 inches, and the cadence more like 100 than 120 paces. Naturally this must give a cramped look to a column instead of a free, easy, natural gait, and on a long tramp must prove particularly tiring to the men.

After the parade a very pleasing ceremony took place in the orderly room of the 48th Highlanders when the officers of the regiment presented Capt. Macdougall with a handsome present; he was also presented by Col. Davidson with a handsome gold watch, bearing the crest of the regiment. As may be surmised, the recipient's usual contained manner deserted him, and these well deserved and hard earned tributes were received with many blushes.

In the afternoon very nearly every one went to either the lacrosse match or the races, and in the evening Lieut.-Col. Davidson entertained the officers of the 13th and the 48th to a dinner at Webb's. Speeches were made by officers of both corps. Major Macdonald and Adjutant Macdonald presided as president and vice-president of the officer's mess. Only the officers of both battalions were present.

At eight o'clock the 13th fell in at the drill shed and marched out along Front street to the boat. About half the Highlanders fell in after them, and as the band of the 13th played "Auld Lang Syne" cheers and counter cheers enlivened the march. At the boat the 13th lined the docks and sang "They are Jolly Good Fellows," while the 48th sang "Auld Lang Syne" as the boat moved away. BREECH-BLOCK.