

Another circumstance to be noticed is that 30 regiments, including the last four named, have no adjutants, possibly deeming that most important officer a superfluity. Further investigations may perhaps reveal other anomalies, "errors and omissions of government clerks and printer's devil excepted." OLD 95.

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,

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Halifax, N. S.

To the Editor *Canadian Military Gazette*.

SIR,—As might be expected, there was considerable surprise, I was going to say disgust, and perhaps that would be expressing the feelings of the force more truly when it was mooted that we were to be relegated to private life for 95. But "all's well that ends well." The H. G. A. opened the drill season on Monday 6th inst., when the battalion (I hate the word battalion when applied to an artillery corps) paraded for commanding officer's inspection and route march.

The C. O. made a minute inspection of the N. C. O's. and men, their clothing, arms and accoutrements. I have reason to believe that he was satisfied with the amount of "spit and polish" observable, for they were neatly dressed and scrupulously clean, they certainly made the most of the old Crimean accoutrements with which they are equipped. About 260 of all ranks paraded, a good number for a first muster. The playing of the band was very favorably commented upon by several musical critics present.

No. 2 Company (Major Hesselms) paraded 60 strong on the following day for the purpose of burying with military honors their late comrade, Gunner Burgess. The officiating clergyman made some appropriate remarks. The band rendered three dead marches with much pathos.

Your editorial hurried on the last chapter re the new drill shed. We are trying to solve how many chapters there are in the yarn. Yours truly,

GRAVELCRUSHER.

Kingston.

KINGSTON, May 9th.—The tenth anniversary of the capture of Batoche passed almost unnoticed in this city, although several of the officers, and a number of the men who took part in the engagement with "A" Field Battery R.C.A., are still members of the corps. Besides these there are residing in the city men who participated in the four days fighting at Batoche, as well as in the earlier action at Fish Creek, with the 90th Rifles of Winnipeg, 10th Royal Grenadiers of Toronto, etc. It is surprising that these

"veterans" do not take steps to celebrate the anniversary of one or both the engagements named. In Toronto the days are duly and fittingly honored by such of the survivors of General Middleton's column as reside in the city. Such is the case in other places also, and there is no apparent reason why the Kingston contingent of the veterans of '85 cannot fall into line with those of their former comrades who are resident elsewhere.

Quarter Master General Lake was in the city a few days ago, for the purpose of inspecting the ancient relic yclept "the drill shed." As a result of the investigation, it is reported, on good authority, that the headquarters of the 14th Battalion will be removed to Artillery Park.

The old stone structure which was used as barracks by the Imperial troops, in which the brigade office is now located, and in which the band of the 14th, had its rooms, will be fitted up, and made to serve the purpose of an armory. The regiment will drill, on the parade ground adjoining.

Artillery Park is much more centrally situated than is the present drill shed, and will have that circumstance to recommend it. On drill evenings that happen to be rainy the men can assemble there, and remain in the armories until "it clears up," or until "it is 10 o'clock," when they can be dismissed and return to their homes. Of course it is not necessary that they should drill. They would have to be paid if they did, and that would never do! The Canadian Militia requires no drilling now anyway. The Government can't afford to pay for such tom-foolery any longer. It was rumored a few days ago that the uniforms of the different corps would be called in to be used in the manufacture of rag carpet for the floor of the Houses of Parliament, and that the arms and accoutrements would be collected and taken to Ottawa to form a museum for the benefit of antiquarians who may flourish hundreds of years hence, and who may interest themselves in researches into the manners and customs of the Canadian people in A.D. 1895, and may be especially curious as to the nature and extent of the measures taken by the remarkable governments of said people, for the defence of the nation. It turned out, however, that the rumor was untrue, and that those who have been sworn in as militiamen will be allowed to retain for a time at least, the arms, accoutrements, and uniforms issued to them.

Some impertinent people are asking what the Militia Department did with the \$5,000 or so received by said department, as the sale price of the present drill shed site, which was sold to Queen's University. Surely the money was not used to buy rifles for testing purposes, as the amount that should have been spent for last year's annual camps, is alleged to have been used.

Sergt. Kelly of "A" Field Battery R. C.A., who was tried by district court martial recently, for absenting himself

from barracks without leave, has been reduced to the ranks.

It is said that special precautions will be taken in future, to enlist only men of good character, as a means of preventing or lessening desertion from the battery. It is reported also that no special pains will be taken to capture those who have deserted this spring, as it is considered that the corps is well rid of them.

There will be no outside corps here on the Queen's birthday. The military position of the programme for the day's celebration will be carried out by "A" Field Battery, and the 14th Batt. Major W. M. Drennan of the Kingston Field Battery states that it is not probable that Lt.-Col. Collon, D.A.G., will permit the field battery to turn out on that day.

Lieut. Moore, of the Kingston Field Battery, is one of the eleven officers referred to by the Militia General Order recently published, and which cancelled the previously gazetted confirmation of rank of the officers. Lieut. Otto E. Hewton, adjutant of the 47th Batt. was also one of those affected by the order, and both the officers named are at a loss to know what the order means and why their confirmation in the ranks to which they had been appointed provisionally was cancelled. As yet they have personally received no official notice of the cancellation.

Lieut. R. Sutherland of No. 6 company, 14th Batt. has decided to offer to his men two medals for competition at the rifle ranges. They will be fired for at the annual regimental rifle matches and the conditions under which they must be competed for are such as cannot fail to have a decidedly beneficial effect upon the company.

Lieut. Sutherland is one of the most popular, most enthusiastic and painstaking officers in the battalion, and the men of No. 6 company fully appreciate his desire for their welfare.

VEDETTE.

Hamilton.

The visit of the Queen's Own to Hamilton on May 21th, has been declared off, through whose fault, it is quite easily to determine. The Queen's Own were to come to Hamilton under the auspices of the St. George's Society, who were pay all expenses; the military programme was to be carried out at the Jockey Club Park; admission fee to be charged, all surplus going into the funds of the St. George's Society, a purely benevolent society, as every one knows.

Now the story goes that when arrangements were about completed, the Queen's Own officers sent word that their regiment would not come and in explanation stated that they objected upon principle to raising money to pay their own expenses.

Those well up on military matters say that this was but an excuse to cover the real cause.

It is stated that the fact was a most prominent officer wanted to have the