

basis than the amount of picnicing or number of picnics they would go to in a year. The craze for recruits is not confined to one regiment, as witness what the correspondent from Hamilton to the Toronto *Mail* has to say concerning "B" Co., 13th Batt.:—"B" Co., 13th Batt., is offering a number of valuable prizes to be given to the members bringing in the greatest number of recruits during the year. It is by no means flattering to the Company to say that its members require special inducement to make them keep the ranks full, besides which, men who have to be coaxed or persuaded to join the Company, instead of doing so of their own free will, are not likely to make good soldiers."

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This in turn is, I think, beaten by Capt. W. B. Smith, of F Co. 22nd Regt. N. Y., who enlists the services of the ladies towards building up his company, and offers a handsome gold pin to the first lady who proposes through a member of the company three recruits who will pass the surgeon.

If this keeps on we will gradually work back and perhaps, you never can tell, we may yet hear of companies being formed as one of the Highland regiments was, by the men receiving the bounty or shilling from the lips of a beautiful woman.

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I came across in a list of rare medals offered for sale by Spink & Co. of London, Eng., the following names, and I am sorry to say all Canadian and Ontario men at that, whose medals are listed at the following values :

- I. Armstrong, A Co. 12th Bn. Y. R. . . . . £1 10 0
- W. Blackwell " . . . . . 1 10 0
- E. Higham, 7th Fusiliers. . . . . 2 0 0
- King, 10th Bn. R.G. (Saskatchewan Bar) . . . 3 0 0

All the above are North-West medals and bring exceedingly high prices, considering that Crimea and Indian Mutiny medals are held at from eight shillings up.

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The general opinion among the shooting men around Toronto is that the Military Rifle League will not have as successful a year as last unless they can see their way to dividing the competition into two classes, viz.: Martini and Snider. It has been suggested that it be left to the option of a regiment or association whether to enter all Martini, all Snider, or mixed teams.

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In view of the recent decision at Ottawa it seems absurd to think that men who perhaps are limited as to practice time, will devote any of it to practising with the condemned gas pipes, that is if they intend going to the D.R.A. meeting; and it certainly would put no hardship on anyone to make it optional which rifle a team or teams from a regiment used; unless this is done, the chances are that a really good and (thanks to Major Delamere) a flourishing League will through lack of interest and competitors come to an untimely end.

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**FORTY-EIGHTH SERGEANTS' MESS FIRST ANNUAL DINNER.**

Here's to the heath, the hill and the heather,  
The bonnet, the plaidie, the kilt and the feather,  
Here's to the heroes that Scotland can boast,  
May their names never die, that's a Hielanman's toast.

Some one has said that a Highland welcome leaves nothing to be desired, and, of a truth I believe it, to guage from the welcomes extended and bounteous hospitalities dispensed in such a happy manner as that which characterized Sergt.-Major Robertson and every member of his flourishing Mess, on the occasion of their first Annual Dinner at the "Arlington," Friday evening, the 10th inst.

Not having sufficient room in their temporary quarters, the sergeants were compelled to hold their dinner in some place more suitable and it took place in the spacious dining rooms of the Arlington.

The menu provided by Messrs. Mathews was irreproachable as will be seen by the following :

**MENU**

**SOUPS**

Consommee Mock Turtle

**FISH**

Codfish, Egg Sauce. Pommes, Parisiennes

	BOILED		
Leg of Southdown			Caper Sauce
	ENTREES		
Sweetbreads	Glace a la Fenanciere		
	Oyster Patties, a la Francaise		
	Timbales of Rice, au Confiture		
	JOINTS		
Ribs of Beef	Yorkshire Pudding	Braised Ham	Champagne Sauce
	Turkey, Cranberry Sauce		Scotch Haggis
	GAME		
	Venison	Currant Jelly	
	COLD DISHES		
Chicken Salad	Lobster Salad	Roast Beef	Ham
Tongue	Boned Turkey	Pate de foie gras	
	VEGETABLES		
Boiled Potatoes	Mashed Potatoes	Turnips	
Fried Parsnips	Tomatoes	Green Peas	
	PASTRY		
English Plum Pudding	Brandy Sauce	New Rhubarb Pie with Custard	
Apple Pie	Apricot Tart	Assorted Tarts	Maccaroons
Scotch Shortbread	Port Wine Jelly	Strawberry Ice Cream	
	DESSERT		
Fruit	Almonds	Walnuts	Filberts
Tea	Coffee	Milk	Canadian Cheese
	Bottled Ale	Sherry	Claret
			Delhesa Raisins
			Stilton Cheese
			Hot Scotch Punch.

The Guests were received in the reception rooms by Sergt.-Major Robertson and Staff-Sergt. Harp, President of the Mess, and a few minutes after nine preceded by Pipe-Major Ireland, entered the dining room, and shortly after all were engaged in a brisk discussion of the feast that had been provided.

The gathering presented a very fine appearance, and it is not at all out of the way to say that never at any dinner, held in Toronto, were the Militia so well and creditably represented as on this occasion.

One could not help a feeling of admiration for the force and the country which possessed such worthy representatives, and it would indeed be unfair to individualize or comment on the appearance of any representative of the regiment. They all looked ideal soldiers and thoroughly capable of holding their own no matter what they undertook, or the odds to contend against.

The Sergt.-Major occupied the chair and around him were seated, on his right, Lieut.-Col. Davidson, Lieut.-Col. Hamilton, Q. O. R.; Major Cosby, 48th; Major Buchan, No. 2 Co., C. R. I.; Major Henderson, 48th; Mr. W. Simpson, President of the Caledonian Society, and Mr. Alex. Muir, President of Army and Navy Veterans. Seated to the left of the Sergt.-Major were Major Delamere, Q. O. R.; Major Macdonald, 48th; Capt. Macdougall, No. 2 Co. C. R. I.; Surgeons Stewart and Dame, 48th. The vice-chairs were filled by Staff-Sergt Hays, president, and Color-Sergt. McBain, vice-president. The other guests present were, Mr. W. Mortimer Clarke, Q.C.; Mr. T. H. Litscher, Mr. W. S. Pearcey, Mr. J. Ewan, Capt. Robertson, 48th; Capt. Macgillivray, 48th; Lieuts. Ramsay and Donald, 48th; Quar.-Master-Sergeant Borland, No. 2 Co., C.R.I.; Sergt.-Major Stretton, G. G. B. G.; Sergt.-Major Spry, T.F.B; Sergt.-Major George, Q. O. R.; Sergt.-Major Cox, 10th R.G.; Staff-Sergt. Mills and Color-Sergt. Hokinson, 13th Batt., Hamilton; Colour-Sergt. Mellish, 38th Dufferin Rifles, Brantford; Colour-Sergeant Galloway, Sergt.-Instructor Belan, Sergt. Butcher, Bugle-Major Forder and Sergt. Buck, 2 Co. C. R. I.; Color-Sergt Lennox and Color-Sergt. World, Q. O. R.

The Haggis was introduced in a truly appropriate manner, the entrance of Sergts. Greatham, "A" Co., and Anderson, "D" Co., each bearing aloft a huge Haggis and preceded by Pipe-Major Ireland playing "up and warm them a' Willie," evoking rounds of applause which was continued during the parade around the tables and until the dishes were deposited opposite the president and vice-presidents of the Mess.

The brass band under Bandmaster Griffin, stationed in the ante-room, made its first appearance in public, and during the dinner discoursed a choice programme, earning well-deserved eoniums from all present at the splendid state of efficiency which had been acquired by them in such a remarkably short time. Their playing reflected great credit on their leader, and demonstrated the happy choice which had been