

STRATFORD.

Worth's hall was the scene of a brilliant affair on the eve of Feb. 9th, in the ball given by the men of No. 2 Co. 28th Battalion. A large number having assembled in respond to the invitations, spent a very pleasant evening, the party breaking up at an early hour, high in their praise of the men of No. 2 as entertainers.

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Lieut. D. Gibson, of No. 2 Co., came over from Ingersoll for the military ball.

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The members of the Battalion band have supplied themselves with a fatigue cap.

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Private Allen of No. 2 Co., who has been taking a short course of instruction at London Infantry School, is home on account of a severe attack of rheumatism.

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Private McCarthy of No. 2 Co., is taking a short course at London Military School. Bugler Cooke of the same Company is also taking a short course.

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The following order was issued on 25th inst.:—All the officers and non-commissioned officers of the city companies of the 28th Battalion will assemble in the orderly room on March 2 at 7.30 sharp, for organization and instruction.

FORESIGHT.

40TH BATTALION.

The annual meeting of the officers of the 40th Battalion was held at the Brunswick House, Colborne, on Saturday, 18th inst. Col. Rogers, the commanding officer, occupied the chair, and Lieut. Wilson of Colborne acted as secretary. Representatives from all parts of the county were present. Regimental and band committees were struck for the ensuing year, and some other matters pertaining to the efficiency of the Battalion were discussed at some length. It was moved by Major Duncan, seconded by Capt. Hamilton, and carried unanimously:

"That the commanding officer be respectfully requested to not make any promotions at present, in order to give all officers a chance to qualify themselves for higher positions."

The shooting prospects were also discussed, and the chances are that the 40th Battalion will soon win a name for itself in this section of the country. It has two or three very energetic rifle shots, and their enthusiasm, it is hoped, will soon "leaven the whole loaf." The "40th Battalion Rifle Association" has been formed, with headquarters at Campbellford, and, with two league teams in the field, some good will surely come. They have a range, which when properly fitted up, will be one of the best in the province. The motto of the Battalion is "Excelsior," and they are going to prove their right to it on the range as well as on the field.

The standing committees above referred to were as follows:—Regimental Committee—Capt. Snelgrove, Cobourg; Capt. Hamilton, Campbellford; Lieut. Fowlds, Hastings; and Lieut. Wilson, Colborne. Band Committee—Capt. Butler, Brighton; Capt. Greer, Colborne; and Dr. O'Gorman, Cobourg. A communication from the secretary of the Campbellford band, making application to be attached as the 40th Battalion band, was received and referred to the Band Committee. As the Battalion will not go into camp this year, the various companies will devote their energies to rifle practice.

The officers dined together in the Brunswick hotel and enjoyed the tempting bill of fare which mine host Hicks placed before them.

KINGSTON.

A fair-sized crowd witnessed the hockey match between the 1st P.W.O. Rifles Hockey team of Montreal and the Senior R.M.C. Cadets. The visitors were all officers of the regiment. In the first half the R.M.C. scored six goals and the Rifles made two; in the second the R.M.C. secured three more goals, "the boys in green" failed to score, and the match was won by the cadets nine goals to two. For the

visitors Capt. Lewis and Lieut. E. Armstrong probably played the finest game, while for the R.M.C. Sergt. Heneker was as usual the star, Sergt. Leckie also playing a very steady neat game. The teams were:—

P. W. R.		R. M. C.
Capt. Lefebvre	Goal	Cadet A. Russell
" Lewis	Point	Sergt. J. E. Leckie
" Bond	Cover Point	Cadet N. Cosby
" Bartlett		Corp. A. Lefevre
Lieut. Armstrong	Forwards	Sergt. F. Heneker
" Reed		Cadet F. Franklin
Lt E. N. Armstrong		" R. Hayter
Referee—G. Curtis.		

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What was probably the most daring desertion that has ever occurred from the ranks of any of our regulars, took place on Sunday, Feb. 26th, at St. George's cathedral, and was effected by Driver Kerley of "A" Battery. Kerley had been tried by regimental court-martial and sentenced to 28 days cells a few days before, but was allowed to attend church along with two other prisoners under the usual escort of a non-commissioned officer and the balance of the church party. At the cathedral there is a side entrance leading to a gallery which is set apart for the military portion of the congregation; as the detachment entered the non-commissioned officers in charge of the party dropped to the rear to have a surveillance over those in front so that none could slip out and not attend the service. It seems that Kerley slipped behind the stairs leading to the gallery and as soon as the non-coms with the party had gone upstairs he boldly walks down the side aisle of the main body of the church saluting one of the officers of the Battery as he passed out of the door into the street, the officer not thinking at the moment who it was that had just passed him. His absence was not noticed for some time, when the corporal in charge of the prisoners looked around and was thunderstruck and amazed at finding one of his men gone. The matter was immediately reported to the Commandant and pickets on foot and mounted were sent to all the roads leading from the city and men were posted on the ice as it was supposed that the runaway would make for the States. Every house and place he was known to frequent were carefully watched by steady non-coms in plain clothes and all outgoing trains were also searched, but up to this writing no trace of the offender has been had. Kerley is an old offender; he deserted from the Battery before but was captured. Corporal Clifford who was in charge of the detachment Kerley was in has been placed under arrest for negligence of duty, and will be tried by District Courtmartial.

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On Monday, Feb. 13th, the Opera House was filled with music-loving citizens, who seldom have an opportunity to enjoy such a musical treat as that furnished by the "Carey Memorial Concert," which was given as a tribute to the late Bandmaster Carey's genius; only the gems of the compositions of the late leader were rendered, by the combined bands of "A" Battery and the 14th Battalion, who, to the number of 50 were seated on a well arranged platform on the stage. The programme was opened by "God Save the Queen" by the bands. After which came "Lillies," a march, the latest composed by the late Mr. Carey, and to hear it sent a thrill through every hearer. Selection "Pregheria Mose in Egitto" was a beautiful arrangement and showed his great skill; the piece was rendered in a faultless manner. "Bertha," a waltz, was played for a first time before a Kingston audience. It was written some years ago when Mr. Carey was bandmaster of the Royal Canadian Rifles. The next piece on the programme by the band was the gem of the evening, a paraphrase on "Nearer my God to Thee." Many were deeply affected by the rendition of this beautiful piece and many moist eyes were seen throughout the audience. In arranging this piece the late composer certainly excelled himself. This composition will alone make him famous and perpetuate his memory in a fitting manner. The large audience was intensely moved when the bands finished. The paraphrase had been rendered a few times by the 14th Band and was extremely popular with all. The "Spanish" song and Retreat" is a beautiful arrangement and completely captivated the audience. The description of this piece was: After a pretty little Spanish song by the band on the