

By general orders of 28th March of that year the battalion was designated the 8th Batt. or "Stadacona" Rifles. Drill and rifle practice were carried on most energetically, and on 28th April, 1864, No. 4 Co., Capt. Gibsone's, was awarded the first prize of \$100 given by Government to the 7th military district for drill and general efficiency. By the same gazette No. 3 Co., Capt. Burns, and No. 6 Co., Capt. Murphy, having failed to pass the inspection, were removed from the list of the volunteer militia. On 23rd December, 1864, two companies were called out for active service, and on the 26th the Victorias, under Capt. Allevn, Lieut. Fraser and Ens. Pendergast, left for the frontier, along with the Diamond Harbor boys, under Lieut. A. H. Jackson, Lieut. Froste Wood Gray and Ens. H. S. Lemesurier. The former company proceeded to join the 1st Administrative Batt. at Windsor, and the latter went to Laprairie to the headquarters of the 3rd Ad. Batt. These companies returned at the end of April, 1865, and the Ballytrammons, under Capt. Dumlin, Lieut. Cochrane and Ens. J. Louis, left for Windsor on the 26th April to be under Lieut.-Col. Reeve, who had been appointed to the command of the 1st Ad. Batt. This company, which was No. 1 of that battalion, returned home on 6th July. The next call out was for the Wellingtons, Capt. Gibsone, to proceed on the night of 30th December of that year to Chateau Richer in aid of the civil power. This civil power service, I may here remark, is one which is never glorious, and is uniformly disagreeable as well as dangerous work, and the number of times that the battalion has successfully performed such service in between pleasanter duties is an eloquent testimony to their discipline and utility.

As a precautionary measure against the threatened invasion, from the United States, of the Fenians in 1866, the Government called nearly the whole active force of the country to arms, and on midnight of 8th March the Eighth were called out and subsequently billeted in Montcalm Ward, near the drill shed, along with the rest of the Quebec city brigade and kept there, under arms, till the 29th, when they were dismissed with orders to drill regularly twice a week. Regular garrison duty was performed, and besides drilling every day for two hours both morning, afternoon and evening, a nightly picket of two companies alternately patrolled silently around outside the city walls, through the suburbs, St. Rochs, and lower town to the Queen's wharf and returned to the drill shed. This tramp of two hours at a time, because of the "dead march" pace, was very monotonous and tiresome. The regulars shut the city gates at midnight and kept the city surrounded by a cordon of sentries, posted on the ramparts, whose cry of "all's well" sounded clear and weird through the still night. The promised raid took place on the morning of 1st June, when the Fenians crossed over at Fort Erie, fought at Ridgeway and got back to Uncle Sam's territory as soon as possible. The regiment was called out and drilled part of every day till the 18th June, when it was dismissed. A citizens' relief committee had been formed, and subscriptions taken up to assist the families of the volunteers called out on these occasions, but the "Victorias" generously declined to accept any of this fund, and at the inspection held on the evening of 9th January, '67, Mr. H. S. Scott, on behalf of the committee, as a token of esteem for this generous action, presented the company with a solid silver bugle, which is still in possession of No. 1 company.

The 9th Batt. had two English companies on its strength, No. 5, known as the Highland Rifles, Capt. Herald Douglass, Lieut. Horace R. Sewell and Ensign Ed. F. H. T. Patterson, and No. 6 company, Capt. James Black Stevenson and Ensign Alfred H. White. These companies