

or made away with at the time of desertion. Deserters and fraudulent enlistees are to forfeit all previous service; but in all other respects the pardon is to be full and free.

UPON this subject the *Broad Arrow* has the following timely comment:—"We have not the slightest objection to the extension of the Queen's pardon to deserters and the like on the occasion of her jubilee, but it is unfortunate that circumstances only seem to permit of a favor being granted to the law-breakers in the army. If these are entitled to consideration at this jubilee time, how much more deserving of some recognition are those who have steadily and faithfully served the Crown without offence."

DURING the progress of the fire at the Quebec citadel last week, there appears to have been a panic amongst residents of the vicinity who had become possessed of the idea that the powder magazine was in danger. Had it been they might well fly to escape disaster. But such was not the case. The magazine is absolutely proof against the penetration of fire, no matter how fierce, which may rage round about it. The elevated situation of the burned buildings made the fire appear to be much worse than it really was. The stables, however, are admitted by all to have been in a very bad position, and it is safe to say that some other site will be found for them when reconstructed.

Personal.

MAJOR R. A. CROPLEY, District Paymaster and Superintendent of Stores for the Province of Prince Edward Island, went out with a detachment of the 97th (or "Earl of Ulster's") Regt., and the mayor of the city in which the regiment was then stationed, on the 27th of June, 1838, to proclaim the Queen's coronation. Major Cropley was at the time a non-commissioned officer. He is going into camp in Charlottetown on the 27th of this month—still serving the Queen after an unbroken and honorable connection with the army extending over fifty years. There are few men in Canada with such a remarkable record as this. Before Confederation the gallant old major occupied the position of Inspector of the Volunteer Brigade of Prince Edward Island, and since then he has been on the district staff. The old veteran is now the senior major, but two, in the Dominion; and is yet, we are happy to say, as active, erect, and soldierly in appearance as the best of them.—*Fredericton Capital*.

Among the names appearing in the *Canada Gazette* last issued, of those to whom the Governor-General has ordered commissions to issue under "The Revised Statutes of Canada," chap 19, intitled "An Act respecting Public Officers," is that of Sir Frederick Dobson Middleton, K.C.M.G., C.B., and a major-general in the army; as Major-General Commanding the Militia of Canada, from 23rd May, 1884.

A compliment, that will doubtless be appreciated, has just been paid by Lord Dufferin, Viceroy of India, to the Burniah field force. Two officers from native regiments serving with the force are to join His Excellency's staff at Simla as extra aides-de-camp.

On The Horse Guards' Parade.

A Canadian officer now in London sends us the following interesting description of one of the great sights of London on last Queen's birthday—on the Horse Guards' parade:

"For the first time in many years the celebration of the anniversary of Her Majesty's birthday took place all over England on the 24th of May; notably in London, by the usual trooping of the Queen's color by the Household Brigade on the Horse Guards' Parade. This is a ceremony looked forward to with great avidity by all London, and it is sure to bring out the choicest of the troops, and in addition one of the most aristocratic gatherings of the season. The Parade is of an irregular shape. The line is formed on its longest side, the rear being on a part of the park. The Duke of York column is in the immediate rear. The centre is opposite to the archway of the Horse Guards, from the windows of which a balcony stands out, occupied by H. R. H. the Princess of Wales and her interesting daughters, as well as privileged members of the aristocracy. Numerous stools are erected round the parade; these are filled by invited guests. As the hour named (an early one—ten a.m.) approaches, every available inch of ground is occupied by those who have not been fortunate enough to receive invitation to occupy the

stands, all impatient for a view of as fine a military spectacle, save in numbers, as can be seen in any capital in Europe. As time advances, into the arena march the actors in the coming parade, first three companies of the Scots Guards, three companies of the Grenadiers, and lastly, two companies of the Coldstream Guards, each regiment headed by its band. Through a side approach debouch a troop of the 1st Life Guards, their band preceding them arrayed in their state uniforms of cloth of gold. The line is soon formed, the Life Guards being on the right but at right angles to the Foot Guards. The bands of the Household Brigade are massed. The drum-majors, dressed in their state uniforms of cloth of gold, their heads adorned with velvet jockey caps, place themselves at equal distances in front of the unsurpassed bands of musicians whose movements they control. The drummers and fifers have moved across to a position facing the bands. The Queen's color is in its proper place on the left of the line, under charge of the senior sergeant-major. The line at open order await the coming of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales. As the clock commences to strike the hour of ten, the wheeling back of a company, the heaving of the dense crowd in the rear, the loud cheers proclaim his entrance. Accompanying are the Duke of Cambridge (in the Guards uniform), surrounded and preceded by a brilliant staff of officers, many foreign ones among the number. On reaching the centre of the line the Royal party halt, and a Royal salute at once follows. Then an inspection of the line, the band playing a march in the style that only such a band can. It is most interesting to note the members of that staff renowned in the history of the British army and its achievements as they pass in front of the Brigade.

Now commences the principal part of the performance. In all its steps nothing occurs to mar its beauty; it is finished as it commenced, in perfect keeping with all the surroundings. Mention must be made of the performance of the bands as they marched to and fro; their music could not be surpassed, and was a source of great delight to the listeners. It must not be forgotten that after the Life Guards had walked past, the Foot Guards passed the reviewing point in slow time, a movement seldom performed, save by the Brigade. It is impossible to describe the Life Guards; each officer and man is a picture by himself—such men, such horses, and the style in which they turn out, claim the highest admiration. Now for a word for the foot soldiers. In their way they stand unrivalled as infantry. The 600 men on parade were a very fine body of men, but to an onlooker who has a memory of what Guardsmen were fifty years ago, the comparison is in favor of the old ones. Now the trooping is coming to an end, an advance in line, a Royal salute, H. R. H. the Prince of Wales and his staff leave, a roll or two of a drum, the Guards are formed up, the Queen's Guard, which goes to St. James' Palace, headed by the massed band, march off. The Life Guards, with their gorgeously arrayed band, move off to their barracks. In a very short space of time the square is emptied of its dense crowd. All that remains to the spectators, as they go their respective ways, is the pleasing recollection of a sight that can only be witnessed on the Horse Guards' Parade.

The Brigade Camp at Kingston.

NEWS of the brigade camp for District No. 3, may prove to be interesting to some of the readers of the MILITIA GAZETTE; so, with your permission, Mr. Editor, I will try to depict its outlines:—

A nicer or prettier spot could not have been found for camping than the one selected at Kingston. The infantry at the camp were located in the outer enclosing of the Military College ground, and the artillery and cavalry in Barriefield Common.

Beautiful Lake Ontario close at hand surrounding the camp, seemed to delight in the kind hospitality it was giving to our boys. Constantly it kept caressing us with its best cool breezes, and the views and scenery of its islands and horizons that the lake had kept in store for us were delightful to contemplate.

The nights were delicious but so cool that I often shivered with my heavy undress jacket on, and the men frequently complained of not having sufficient covering—one blanket is issued per man.

The parade ground being level, and the grass cut, the movements of the troops were thus facilitated. Opportunities for skirmishing were afforded and taken advantage of about the hills and broken ground of the surroundings of Fort Henry.

Owing to the illness and subsequently to the sad death of Mrs. Villiers, wife of the D. A. G., the command of the camp fell to the next senior officer, Col. Boulton, of the 3rd troop of cavalry.

The corps of infantry were the 48th, the 45th and 46th battalions; the latter being the regiment of the late Lieut.-Col. Williams, now commanded by Lieut.-Col. Benson, of Port Hope. There were four troops of cavalry and three batteries of artillery; also, A Battery formed part of the brigade. The above corps were all in camp on the evening of the 21st ultimo