

GOSSIP OF THE MILITIA.

The Fifth Royal Scots creditably pass their Annual Inspection.

Col. Grasett's farewell to the Grenadiers—Accident to Major Mead, T.F.B.—
More compliments on the March—Miscellaneous Notes.

Toronto.

Last week a very unfortunate accident happened to Major J. H. Mead, Toronto Field Battery. Major Mead, accompanied by one of his drivers named Ritchie, was scouring the country in search of horses for the annual camp. When driving up a steep incline leading to a bridge over one of the railways, the horse suddenly shied, overturning the trap and landing both the Major and his companion at the bottom of the slope, some 10 or 12 feet down, Driver Ritchie being cut and stunned, and Major Mead fracturing his right ankle. The wild steed having been captured, Major Mead drove himself back the eight miles to town. This mishap will place the command of the Battery during camp in the hands of Mr. Robert Myles, Captain Beatty having, I understand, been granted leave of absence. Mr. Myles will be assisted by Mr. Brock, a Gentleman Cadet, who will be attached for the 12 days' drill.

COMPLIMENTS ON THE MARCH.

Some time ago "Milish" and I had a few words about compliments on the march. The question originally arose from a remark of mine about a permanent corps on the march ignoring a Brigade-Major. Although I was in the wrong about the affair, as permanent corps do not come under the D. A. G. unless outside their barrack walls, and as Brigade-Majors have no command unless they should happen to be acting D. A. G.'s, still militiamen assert that they never know when a Brigade-Major is not acting D. A. G., consequently they have fallen into the habit of saluting him. "Milish" quoted a paragraph from the Queen's Regulations about "guards and parties on the march paying the prescribed compliments to general officers in uniform." If "Milish" had told us that this extract is under a sub-head of "guards and sentries," we might have said that "parties on the march" implied a party from a guard. But why go to the Queen's Regulations, "Milish"? If you had read the corresponding paragraph in the *Militia* Regulations, you would have there found that "general officers meeting guards on the march are also entitled to the usual salute in passing." No mention of "parties on the march." But if you had studied your Otter's Guide and the Militia Regulations you would have found another paragraph which says: "Staff officers, commanding officers of battalions and corps, and heads of departments are *at all times* entitled to be saluted by those *under their immediate command*." But as a Brigade-Major (except as above mentioned) has no command, he need not on future occasions be noticed by militia corps.

LINCH-PIN.

COL. GRASSETT'S FAREWELL.

The following farewell from the officer lately commanding has just appeared in the regimental orders of the Tenth Royal Grenadiers:—"Lt.-Col. Grasett, in resigning the command and taking leave of the regiment, desires to place on record his grateful appreciation of the services rendered by all those who have been connected with the corps since he was appointed its lieutenant-colonel. The success attending the re-organization of the battalion was largely due to the united exertions of officers and non-commissioned officers, combined with the co-operation of the rank and file, without which the attempt would have been a failure. The credit and prestige which the regiment has since gained, both in quarters and on the field, is the result of discipline, engendering that *esprit de corps* which is so essential to the well being of every militia organization. Lt.-Col. Grasett feels sure that by following the same lines the battalion will sustain and increase the high reputation it now enjoys. He congratulates the regiment upon the permission accorded to bear on its colours the honours they gained with such distinction in the face of the enemy, and though tardy this recognition of its services to the country will serve as an incentive for those who come after to do their duty as loyally and as faithfully when occasion demands. Lt.-Col. Grasett desires to bespeak for his successor the same measure of confidence and support from all ranks that has been extended to him, and begs to say farewell to the Royal Grenadiers with every expression of gratitude for the past and a full assurance that they will ever be for Canada, "Ready, Aye, Ready."

Montreal.

On Saturday afternoon, in a hot sun, the annual inspection of the Royal Scots took place on the Champ de Mars, before a large concourse of spectators, who at times were most enthusiastic at the manner in which the gallant Highlanders acquitted themselves. The inspection was as creditable and efficient as the Royal Scots ever passed through. Each and all of their movements they did well and with precision. They mustered in the drill shed to the strength of about 290, including the band, pipers, pioneers and ambulance corps. The officers on parade were Lt.-Col. Caverhill, commanding, Major Lyman, Capt. and Adj. Strathy and Lydon, Capt. Foulis, paymaster, Capt. Foster, quartermaster, Capt. Hood, Blaiklock, Ibbotson, Gault, McLennan and Vaughan, Lieuts. Linton, Cantlie, J. S. Ibbotson, Cameron, Rankin and Miller. Lieuts. Ibbotson and Cameron carried the colours. When they marched on to the grounds in heavy marching order, and were drawn up to receive the inspecting officer, they presented a fine appearance, looking neat, smart, well-sized, and having every indication of being able to defend and uphold the honour of the country. Lieut.-Col. Houghton, D.A.G., was received with a general salute and inspected the men very carefully, after which Major Lyman put the men through the manual and firing exercises, which were very well done. Capt. Lydon having taken command put the men through the bayonet exercise, which was exceedingly well done. They worked well together, going through the various evolutions with great uniformity. They next were put through various battalion movements by Major Lyman. Forming square on the two centre companies and reforming line was very well done, as was also advancing in columns of half battalions and deploying into line. Forming quarter column in rear of No. 2 and deploying outwards, as well as forming a square on the leading company and reforming column were neatly executed. Capt. Hood was the next to take the men in hand, and under him they did well. They went through several movements, forming line to left on rear company, advancing and retiring in fours from a flank and reforming line, and advancing in echelon from the right and forming company square, in which beautiful exercise they looked remarkably well. Colonel Caverhill then put them through the new attack drill, which was neatly done, and when the command "Charge" was given they rushed forward with a cheer to dislodge the supposed enemy. The officers and non-commissioned officers were next put through the sword exercise by Capt. Lydon very uniformly. The trooping of the colours, under command of Major Lyman, then took place, after which they formed and marched past in column, quarter column, and also at the double, which, with their wheeling, was admirably done.

Lt.-Col. Houghton addressed the men and complimented them upon their general appearance, physique and the manner in which they had acted, notwithstanding the heat under which they had been exercising. They were then marched back to the drill shed, where the roll was called, and, after the reading of the orders for the London trip, they were dismissed after having undergone a thoroughly creditable inspection. Notwithstanding the heat which prevailed, during the afternoon not a single man had to leave the ranks. The ground was maked of with flags, which bore the St. Andrew's cross. Among the officers of sister corps who witnessed the inspection were noticed Lt.-Cols. Lyman Fletcher, Sinton, Turnbull, M.G.A.; Henshaw, Vics.; Massey, Sixth Fusiliers; Stevenson, Field Battery; Major Atkinson, M.G.A., Surgeon-Major Campbell, of the Infantry School corps, Capt. Busted, Becket and Lieut. Badgley, Vics.; Capt. Howard, M.G.A.; Lieut. Scott, P.W.R.; and many others.

THE LONDON TRIP.

The Royal Scots will leave for London, Ont., on Thursday afternoon per C.P.R. train. An extensive programme will be carried out. On Friday and Saturday evenings "Jessie Brown" will be given under the direction of Mr. Neil Warner. On Saturday the Highland games take place, handsome prizes being offered for competition.

Ottawa.

The annual inspection of the Governor-General's Foot Guards took place on Monday evening at Cartier Square, before Lieut.-General Sir Fred. Middleton, who expressed himself as highly pleased with the efficiency displayed by the regiment.

It has been determined that the monument in honour of the Sharpshooters Osgood and Rogers, who fell at Cut Knife Hill on the 2nd of May, 1885, shall be placed in Major's Hill Park. The Minister of Public Works, Sir Hector Langevin, has given the necessary sanction.

After the inspection, General Middleton very highly complimented Col. Macpherson on the manner in which the Guards had acquitted themselves. The regiment having returned to the drill hall, the pay roll was called by Lt.-Col. D. A. Macdonald, of the Militia Department Staff at headquarters.